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# THE ILLUSTRATED TIMES.

NEWS LITERATURE AND ART

A FAMILY NEWSPAPER FOR TOWN AND COUNTRY.

No. II.—Vol. I.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1853.

PRICE THREEPENCE, STAMPED.

## THE TALK OF THE TOWN.

HIS IMPERIAL MAJESTY THE EMPEROR OF RUSSIA presents his compliments to the Sultan of Turkey, and exceedingly regrets that any unpleasantness should have occurred between them. H. I. M. the Emperor humbly begs to say that, so far from wishing to occupy the Danubian provinces against the will of his friend the Sultan, he would rather not occupy anything than hurt the feelings of his Highness. If his Highness would really prefer H. I. M.'s armies to retire, or H. I. M.'s fleet to be dismantled, nothing remains to oppose the accomplishment of that wish but the modesty of his Highness in not expressing it.

The Ministry is perfectly sound. Lord Palmerston is anxious to restore his voice to the councils of his country.

It is *not* true, as we have heard it said by credible men, that a royal personage so near the throne of Great Britain as to be the father of his heir, exercised considerable influence in Lord Palmerston's resignation, by the active part he has lately taken in foreign affairs.

The funds are firm, and rising hourly. Coals have fallen to reasonable prices, and provisions of a more edible character are to be compassed by a journeyman's earnings. People who strike find that they strike "home," snuffing it with gratuitous poverty. Temple-bar is to be taken down; and the Corporation is *not* past redemption.

That, at least, is what CHRISTMAS makes of it. He says it is all right. He has issued bulletins to that effect; and certainly we are as duly bound to believe them as any bulletins whatever. We are bound to believe, and as a people we do believe, that nothing can go wrong in the bluff Christmas season, except in the hearts of unreclaimed Scrooges or homes that echo to the crutch of little Tiny Tim's. Politics, national and corporate, to the winds! Strife, drown! What matter how the Danube flows, while ale-jugs gog-

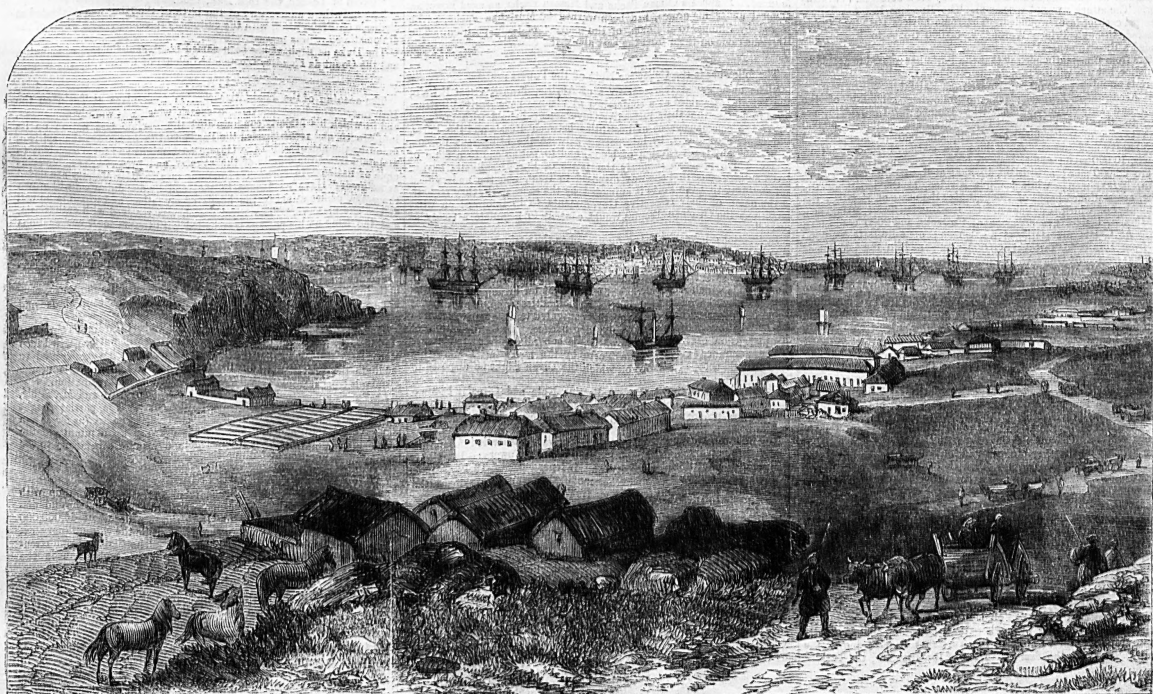
goggle their amber streamlets by our English Christmas hearth-sides? Who cares though Turk and Russian disagree, or the noble Lord the late Secretary of State for the Home Department retire from the Cabinet on questions of reform, to gossip with a French ambassador (on the question of reform, of course!) at Bowood—of what consequence, we say, the squabbles of foreign men and Foreign Ministers, when At Home old feuds expire with yule fuel and their ghosts lie with its ashes, when hearts year-long separated rush together in the clasping of hands, and other hearts, without clasping of any sort, creep softly together once and for ever—when Bounty rules and Love serves—when laughter, rich, bright, and pure as new wine, ripples over every threshold, and the boys are home from school!

Holiday let it be, then, and joy to all; with these reservations: 1, Government employes, whose usual exertions in the public service are to be continued on Monday the 26th; holiday to them it cannot be; joy, however, may arrive with the Bayswater omnibus, at 6 p.m. And 2, anybody who knows anybody with the nature of a Scrooge, or the virtues, difficulties, and inadequate comfort of clerk Bob, and makes no attempt to improve either. Charity and love are the sweetest ingredients of the feast; and the way to insure a merry Christmas and a happy New Year is to be kind to those whom God made our kin: which bond, on this chief day, was knit anew by the Birth in the Manger. Earth had its great gift that day; it is the best of all days to give. That, we wish distinctly to be understood, is no rash assertion. We speak advisedly. It has been found frequently by the generous that Christmas gifts to the poor seem to multiply a hundredfold more than all gifts do to the good of both giver and receiver. It is a curious fact, and well worth a trial.

Talk as we may of Christmas, however, we cannot quit the almost spotless sheet at present under the pen without pointing a political moral. Thought, of the Christmas holy day leads to thought of the holy shrines that keep sacred the place of the nativity, and these to the unholy "shines" of which those very sacred places have been made

the pretence. The hostilities in the East, however, have, within the last three months, so naturally, so easily assumed their real character and significance, that the general public have already forgotten the pretence on which they were first begun. It is easily recalled on this 23rd day of December. If masses of men were at Oltenitza pricked by their officers up to the spot where Ottoman artillery could make broader lanes over denser piles of their dead; if at Akaljik war made carrion for ten thousand dogs; if at Sinope a cowardly fleet burned, drowned or slaughtered an almost defenceless enemy—that was all begun because the extreme love of the Emperor Nicholas, and of the Church of which he is properly called the Head, for Holy Places. It was not enough that those Holy Places should periodically be spattered with the brains of holligent priests, fighting over the footprints of the Prince of Peace, but the Emperor Nicholas must get armies slaughtered to establish his share of property in them too. "On earth peace, and good will to all men," is so sweet a sound to him, that rather than not read his titles of authority in the atmosphere where it was first uttered, he will slaughter your Moslem dogs like Christian pork, and, if need be, make widows mourn in every corner and in every tongue of Europe.

That is what we start with, but that is not the worst of it. If this were the real state of the case, preposterous and wicked as it may be, the perpetrator might find his excuse in fanaticism. Fanaticism is not criminal, is often heroic, and not always, in the end, deplorable. It has been to religion what war has been to civilization—fire going before to make the path straight. But the Holy Places are not the objects of true fanaticism; they have been made a lie. A wolf in sheep's clothing has been called despicable for many years; but what is that cunning, and rapine, and ambition, which goes masked in the very swaddling-clothes of Peace—Peace horn in a manger? Religion has been made the pretext of all the sins that hell delights in; but never before did blood-reckless rapacity secrete its arms in the very cradle of Christ.



SEBASTOPOL. FROM AN AUTHENTIC SKETCH.—(SEE PAGE 23.)

## FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

## RUSSIA AND TURKEY.

The news from the seat of war this week is unimportant, except as it confirms previous accounts.

**VIENNA, Tuesday.**—It is credibly ascertained that the combined English, French, and Turkish fleets entered the Black Sea on the 10th inst. It is supposed that their destination is Sebastopol. Three ships from each squadron have been left to guard the approach to Constantinople.

Advices from Constantinople of the 9th inst. state that the English and French steamers which had been despatched to Sinope on the 4th had returned, bringing with them 400 wounded and some four hundred prisoners of the late engagement. It appears that no less than 4000 Turks perished in the battle; they are said to have behaved with great bravery—the Russians, who were the real aggressors, with great cruelty. The arrival of the English and French steamers probably rescued the wounded survivors of the Turkish squadron, and some of the Turkish ships.

These accounts still leave it uncertain what loss was sustained by the Russians, and how much their ships suffered; but state that their losses were greater than at first supposed. Immediately on the return of the steamers, Lord Stratford sent off a messenger to his Government, and it was expected that the combined fleets would immediately enter the Black Sea. The Turks were greatly excited; and it was reported that their fleet, under Admiral Siala (Mustapha Pasha), had been sent Sebastopol, supported by the English and French fleets.

At Jassy a thanksgiving for the victory at Sinope had been solemnly celebrated. The Austrian, Russian, and Greek consuls were invited to attend on the happy occasion, but they did not appear. The English and French consuls had already taken their departure.

The attack made by the Russians on the fort of Chekvetli (St. Nicholas) by sea, with great success, and by land troops, is confirmed by the official accounts sent by Ahmed Pasha, Governor of Lazistan. The Russians were repulsed with severe loss.

The Czar has published a ukase, proclaiming the state of siege throughout Bessarabia and the governments of Cherson and Tauris, and placing these provinces under martial law. Another ukase declares a diminution of the crews of the Baltic fleet, 25 men of each vessel to be retained for guard, and 45 of those of the line. This measure is to remain in force till the 15th of March, 1854.

News up to the 10th of last month reached the Turkish War-office, corroborating the statements that a strong Turkish force was marching on the fortress of Alexandropol (Gumri), and that an engagement had taken place there, in which the Turks had been victorious, driving the Russians back into the fortress. The bulletin of the Turkish War-office says that the engagement lasted the whole afternoon of the 14th, and that the Russians who had come out to meet the Turks fought most desperately, but were routed and driven to seek refuge in the fortress; and that on the following morning they found two hundred dead Russians, some twenty ammunition or baggage-waggons, and a number of horses on the field of battle. The loss on the Turkish side was not stated. It is, however, mentioned that thirty-three horses were killed. Ahmed Pasha came after the battle, with arms and considerable force. He recaptured the village of Bayandir, and laid siege to the fortress of Alexandropol.

**The Patrie says.**—A letter of the 3rd inst. from Odessa states that an army of reserve of 40,000 men is being assembled at Sebastopol. Different rumours are in circulation as to the destination of these troops. It is said by some that they were to make a descent near Varna; but the most accredited and the most probable opinion is, that they are intended to reinforce the different Russian corps in Asia. Another letter from the Danubian provinces, of the 29th ult., gives some details of the corps of Osten Sacken, which has not yet reached Bucharest. It is not so numerically strong as was at first stated. It has been on the march for more than seven weeks, and has had to surmount severe difficulties. It has left a number of sick on the road, and has lost an immense number of horses.

A great many of the ships are cruising off Varna. The Turkish vessels find great difficulties on their passage from Constantinople to Varna. Two Russian steamers are stationed off Galatz, and watch the movements of the Turkish ships. The Russian cruisers advance almost daily to the mouth of the Danube.

It has been stated that the Aroop is marching to dislodge the Turks from Kalafat. This news is confirmed by the latest advices from the Russian camp.

Advices from Bucharest of the 17th inst. announce that an action had taken place at Matschia (opposite Ibrail). The Russians made a reconnaissance with two thousand men, and were met by a battery of riflemen. They destroyed the Turkish batteries below Matschia. The island between Ibrail and Matschia was occupied by the Russians. The firing was sharp. The cannonade lasted twenty hours. Twelve hundred riflemen were landed, and were opposed by the Dobruddah (Turkish) cavalry. The attack was not successful. The Russians lost ten killed, and several cart-loads of wounded. The same advices state that Persia has offered, through Prince Woronzoff, 30,000 troops to Russia, and demanded a Russian general.

Letters from Constantinople say that the Porte has refused to accede to an armistice, but was willing to join the conference.

There is no intelligence of importance from Kalafat. **The Kronstadt Zeitung** gives the following summary of the Russian and Turkish forces along the Danube:—"In Widin, according to the best authenticated accounts, are stationed 50,000 Turkish troops, of which 10,000 are in the city, and 40,000 in the camp, with 250 heavy field pieces. At Rahova are stationed 7000 men; at Nicopolis, 10,000 men; and at Sistova, 8000 men. In and about Rutschuk are 20,000 men; at Silistria, 15,000; at Rascova, 11,000; and at Hirsova, 15,000 men; while towards Kikinda, at the mouth of the Danube, are stationed bands of four other Russian fortresses, amongst others north-west of Ottenitz, 15,000 men. Above Turnul, and opposite Iasi, stand 10,000 troops; in Karakal, 6000; and at Krajova, 8000 men."

It appears that when Schamyl heard of the outbreak of hostilities between Russia and Turkey, he attacked, at the head of 16,000 men, the Russian fortress of Zalkow, which he took after an obstinate defence of thirty-six hours. Before retreating, the Russians fired their cannon and the village, spiked their guns, and destroyed the wheels of their ammunition waggons. From the above fortress the gallant Schamyl proceeded to Ligny, whence he also drove away the enemy, who retreated in the direction of the Caucasus. Four other Russian fortresses, amongst others Decheln, fell into the hands of the Circassians. After obtaining these successes, Schamyl divided his army into three corps, one of which marched towards Tiflis, the second one towards Schirvan, and the third acted as a reserve. One of Schamyl's generals, Daniel Bey, defeated a Russian division on the river Moudouk, took by storm the fortress of Messer. After taking Akiska, the Turkish troops, under Abdi Pasha, marched towards Koblan, in order to cut off the communications between Georgia and that Russian fortress.

An official account of the capture of the Russian steamer Pervaz-Bahri by the Vladimirs is given by the Russian Vice-Admiral Korniloff. The steamer was proceeding in the Vladimirs towards the coast of Asia Minor, to join the squadron under Admiral Nachimoff, when the smoke of a steamer was discovered, which proved to be the Pervaz-Bahri, carrying ten guns. Orders were given to the Egyptian steamer, which turned to the eastward, and attempted to sink the Vladimirs; but, however, soon overhauled her, when the Russian admiral commanded a shot to be fired upon the enemy, which was answered by a whole broadside. The firing then commenced in earnest on both sides, whilst at the same time the vessels were manoeuvring. The Russian steamer was soon coming nearer each other. Most of the Turkish balls passed over the Vladimirs. To avoid the destructive fire of the Russians, the Turkish

steamer, after giving another full broadside, changed her course once more towards the coast of Anatolia. By such manœuvres the contest was prolonged to three hours, when the Russian admiral came within grape-shot distance of the enemy, and by several destructive broadsides compelled the steamer to strike her flag. The loss of the latter was twenty-one killed, including the captain and two officers, and eighteen wounded. The remainder of her crew, 134 men, were taken prisoners. The Pervaz-Bahri (a steamer of 320-horse power) was safely brought into Selatli, after the engagement. The Russians lost a lieutenant and a filer, killed, and a lieutenant and a filer, wounded. When the Russian Vice-Admiral heard of the capture of the Turkish steamer, he directed that she should be named after Admiral Korniloff, and that all the officers of the Vladimirs should be advanced one degree in rank. Several orders of distinction were also conferred upon the officers. Each of the non-commissioned officers was presented with ten, and the sailors with five, silver rubles.

The following is given as the substance of a private Persian letter, dated Isfahan, September 20:—"All Persia is thrown into a state of suspense and anxiety by the disappearance of His Majesty the King of Persia from Tehran, with 30,000 men, 1000 pieces of cannon, and 3000 camels loaded with ammunition. We are completely at a loss to conjecture the object of the expedition or the place of its destination. Some surmise that His Majesty has hastened to co-operate with Turkey against the lawless aggressions of Russia; whilst others, with better reason, are of a different opinion. Persia's uniting with Russia in the present crisis would at once excite the animosity of the Sommes (as all the Turks belong to that sect), and a religious war might be the upshot."

The following letter was received from Paris on Monday morning:—"My private letters from Constantinople have been received, and communicate some interesting particulars respecting the disaster at Sinope. It appears that for some few days certain sinister rumours circulated at Constantinople, with reference to the flotilla under the superior orders of Osman Pasha, but that persons who were naturally most interested paid little or no attention to those sad presentations. From what they could have ascertained, it is a different opinion that there were no Russian ships, but that the Russian fleet was composed of what was to happen. The rumours gradually spread, and the population of Constantinople were in a state of much excitement when the Taif, Turkish steamer, arrived, and confirmed the rumours. It appears that about mid-day on the 30th November a black fog, which had been blowing from the north, enveloped the port of Sinope, gradually cleared off, and the first object seen through the mist was the Russian fleet in overwhelming force at a very short distance, bearing down. The Turkish vessels, to the number of eleven, of which six were frigates, three corvettes, and two steamers, were in a state of much confusion. A Russian three-decker plied her guns, and the Turkish frigates, the Misanis, and the Egyptian frigates, the Danietta. These two ships, before the enemy could open his fire, threw in their broadsides so close that the Russian three-decker was severely injured. In the meantime another Russian ship fired a volley into two corvettes between which it succeeded in piercing itself. The rest of the Russian fleet quickly came up, threw in their fire together on the almost helpless Turkish vessels, and the combat became general. The Taif, foreseeing the disaster that was sure to happen, got its steam up, and, not without great difficulty and much danger, succeeded in getting between the Russian ships and making off, butly pursued by two corvettes and a steamship. When it had got out of the reach of fire, it was found she had not less than seventeen cannon balls in her, two men killed, and four wounded. It would seem, then, that the Russian fleet, composed of eighteen ships, three-deckers, two-deckers, frigates, corvettes, and steamers, attacked an enemy's flotilla lying at anchor, and consisting only of six frigates, three corvettes, and two steamers. No one denies that a complete victory was gained by the Russians, but those who are to judge of the political importance of such a victory are best able to appreciate its merits. As soon as the rumour was diffused at Constantinople, the English and French consuls held a council with the Russian Vice-Admiral, and it was decided that two steam frigates, the Mogador and Retribution, should enter the Black Sea. My letters add that the population was in an indescribable state of consternation and excitement, and, 'and,' says my correspondent, 'they expected a great deal more than two frigates to be sent out.'

It is positively stated that the flotilla of Osman Pasha had nothing whatever to do with the Circassians. It was Mustapha Pasha (called the Englishman, from his having served in the English navy) that had succeeded in landing military stores, and Osman's decision to land at anchor in the Bay of Sinope. The batteries that line the peninsula towards the bay did not open their fire until the Russians (who were aided by the fog) were close at hand; and one letter states that the Russians had the English flag hoisted until they were ready to open their fire, and that this was the reason for the loss of the Turkish batteries. The Turkish accounts we have seen there are two which make allusion to the English flag. It is, we trust, unfounded. It appears Osman Pasha and Hassan Pasha, an aged Egyptian admiral under his orders, had been warned by Mustapha Pasha, as he passed by Sinope to Batoum, of the danger of their position. The Russians came on them from the east along the coast."

The following is the Collective Note of the Powers:—"The undersigned representatives of Austria, France, Great Britain, and Prussia, assembled at a conference at Vienna, have received instructions to declare that their respective Governments behold with profound regret the commencement of hostilities between Russia and the Porte, and desire accordingly, by the mediation of the belligerent Powers, to prevent any further effusion of blood, and to put an end to a state of things which menaces seriously the peace of Europe. Russia having given an assurance that she was disposed to treat, and the undersigned not doubting that the Porte is animated by the same spirit, they request, in the name of their respective Governments, to be informed on what conditions the Ottoman Empire would consent to negotiate a treaty of peace."

Instructions have also been forwarded to the various representatives at the Ottoman Court. The object of the European Cabinets is set forth in these instructions with more precision than in the protocol and note. It is there stated that the Porte will not have to accede to any of the demands which it has already refused; that an arrangement will be concluded for the evacuation of the Principalities; and, finally, that it would be proper to have an armistice consented to, in order to leave to the negotiators the fullest power to be re-conclusion of peace.

A private letter of the 15th from Vienna says, "The Sultan cannot treat before the evacuation of the Principalities; it is impossible for the Czar to submit now without falling under the very feet of his people. The Emperor of Russia cannot, without destroying the very principle of his Government, the latter from Russia in this desperate conjuncture." A few days will decide who are in the right—the sanguine or the desponding.

**ABDEL-KADER.**—"Abdel-Kader," say the Turkish papers, "lives a very retired life at Broussa, in the arms of his family, and occupies himself with the education of his children. His principal enjoyment in the day and through a part of the night is study and poetry, for which he has a

decided penchant. He carefully avoids noise, and Broussa places him so much as a place of residence that he has decided on purchasing a farm in the neighbourhood, in order to give employment to himself and the persons who compose his numerous suite. He is disgusted with grandeur, and now prefers to live retired and tranquil, and to enjoy on his new estate the pleasures of a country life and study."

## FRANCE.

The politicians of Paris have been principally occupied this week in discussing the retirement of Lord Palmerston from the English Cabinet. The impression produced by that event is generally one of surprise, and frequently of regret; and, however founded the opinion, it is nevertheless believed that what is termed the "French element" is now wanting to the Cabinet; meaning that the Minister who was most earnest in his desire for a concert of opinion with France generally, and in particular on the great question of the day, has quitted it. Neither is it easy to convince people that it is not in consequence of a difference of opinion on the Eastern question that the noble lord has retired. At this moment, this feeling exists even to a greater extent than the feeling of regret alluded to, and quite irrespective of party considerations, and so firmly is it entertained that an absurd rumour circulated lately respecting an alleged order for the recall of the English fleet from the Black Sea, if it be there, and even from the Bosphorus, found many credulous persons. It is surmised, too, by many, that this retirement is but preliminary to a further ministerial change, Palmerston's departure being a sacrifice to the return to the Administration in a different, and, to him, more congenial position than that which he has lately occupied.

In publishing the instructions addressed to the representatives of the four Powers at Constantinople, which appeared in the *Journal des Débats*, the *Morning Chronicle* expresses a few words, which show that the French Government is annoyed at the publicity given by the partisans of Russia to documents which were intended to be private, and which afford abundant evidence of the tardiness with which the Powers treat the invader of Turkey, and the roughness with which the Sultan is called upon by his allies and protectors to do their bidding. The *Chronicle* says:—"We have not to give any explanations as to the correctness of the diplomatic documents thus made public. If they are false, it is an emphatic manoeuvre; if they are true, it is an unpardonable indiscretion. The Government has taken measures to prevent the publication of similar acts." It is said that the Emperor Louis Napoleon took a deep and gloomy and catastrophic view at Sinope; and though generally reserved in his manner, and guarded in his language, words have occasionally escaped him in conversation expressive of his feelings. Notwithstanding the assurance received from Lord Stratford that the Emperor would not be so easily alarmed, the Government is endeavouring to negotiate, much doubt exists at Paris on the point, unless, as has been so often stated, the Principalities are previously evacuated, and the pretensions of Russia withdrawn.

No change is apparent in the trade of Paris. Both manufacturers and shopkeepers are labouring at present through a "dead season," unexpected and unusual in the month of December. Apprehensions are consequently entertained that some houses will be compelled to suspend their payments during the next month. Trade in the provinces is not in a better condition than in the capital. The travellers who have returned from a commercial tour have brought back most discouraging accounts. The treasury, being compelled to expend the full amount of its earnings in purchasing the necessities of life, have nothing to spare for other objects. This state of things presses severely on the manufacturers in Normandy and in Alsace. Business is equally dull in almost all the other manufacturing towns. The Government has been obliged to order the sale of some of the property of the late Duke of Orleans for home customers, but all demand for exportation has ceased. The rise in corn and flour prices.

## BELGIUM.

The King, urged by the extreme rigour of the winter, has issued the following *projet de loi*, in anticipation of the one which will be brought in by the Minister of Finance:—"LEOPOLD, RE—PROJET DE LOI. 'Art. 1. The Government is authorised to lower, to suspend entirely, or to re-establish the import duties on coal. 'Art. 2. This authorisation will be of no effect after the 1st January, 1855, if it is not renewed before the 1st of December. The measures taken in execution of the present law will nevertheless be submitted for the approval of the Chamber, at the proper time, if assembled; if not, in the course of the next succeeding session."

The sixtieth anniversary of the birth of the King was celebrated at Brussels on Friday week with the customary solemnity. The whole of the diplomatic corps was present.

The Duke de Brabant has been named Lieutenant-Colonel of Infantry, and the Count de Flandres Lieutenant-Colonel of Cavalry, by the King.

## ITALY.

The opening of the Legislative Session took place at Turin on the 19th inst. The King delivered a speech, in which he was applauded, and in which his Majesty commended the Piedmontese nation on its intelligence, and recommended the Parliament to encourage that spirit of union by the aid of which the Government might find force sufficient to maintain intact the dignity of the country, and preserve the noble principles of national independence from any insult. His Majesty continued as follows:—"Have confidence in me, and by our union we will crown the grand objective raised by the hands of my father, and which mine will defend and preserve." The royal speech was received with enthusiasm, and the King on his passage was hailed with the warmest acclamations by the people.

## SPAIN.

The Government has concluded a contract with the Bank of St. Fernando for the payment of the dividend due on the 7th of January next, both in Spain and abroad. The bank is to advance the funds necessary at an interest of 6 per cent., and a commission of 1 per cent. abroad and 2 per cent. at home.

Some ground for hoping that Sir Robert Gardiner's threat of sending away the Spanish resident at Gibraltar will not be carried into execution. It appears that the Spanish Government have consented to facilitate the evacuation of the fortress; and the expulsion of the Spaniards from it would very likely lead to measures of retaliation.

Last week a duel took place between the Duke of Alba and Mr. Solé, jun., son of the United States envoy at this court. The parties fought with swords, but fortunately without either being wounded (as far as can be learned); and it ended in the seconds drawing up a minute of the combat.

The having been conducted in a manner satisfactory to the honour and reputation of both parties.

## AUSTRIA.

The correspondence from Vienna is almost wholly taken up with current report and speculations upon Eastern affairs, and has a distinctly tincture. The Budget for 1855 shows a deficit of 45,000,000 florins under the head of ordinary expenses; while the extraordinary expenses create a deficit of 50,000,000 florins. The State notes in circulation in November amounted to 1,401,797 florins more than in the preceding month.

## RUSSIA.

Nothing of political importance has occurred at Berlin. The Prussian Court removed from Potsdam to Charlottenburg last Saturday, and will remain at the latter residence until the middle of January, when they will take up their abode in Berlin for the season. The winter has set in with all the due severity of a normal Berlin winter, where, as there are yet no water mains in the streets and no high service in



the houses, a few degrees of cold, more or less, at about zero, are not considered worth remark. All correspondence has become of most questionable punctuality, railway trains being moved up in all quarters. The accounts at present show a considerable unwillingness to purchase on the part of the wealthier classes (as people imagine), in consequence of the cloudy state of the political horizon, and a lamentable ineptitude on the part of the poorer classes, in consequence of the high price of provisions, rents, and firing. Commercial circles are suffering somewhat also from the recent repeal of the enactments formerly existing restricting the privilege of drawing and accepting bills of exchange to members of the Kauffmannschaft, or Commercial Guild. For some time past all sorts of petty tradesmen have been doing paper and flying kites, and more or less, and the country of law is overdone with suits to recover, &c. There have been a good many failures lately among houses supposed to be safe and well to do. Stock Exchange speculators fancy that after the victories last announced, as having vindicated the glory of the Russian arms by land and by sea, the Czar will show himself more conciliatory than hitherto. All projects of loans are just now in great disfavour, more particularly anything like an Austrian loan.

## AMERICA.

## THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

The Canada, from Boston, with the President's Message, has arrived at Liverpool. She brings 700,000 dollars in specie. The Message commences with thanksgiving for the general prosperity of the country, and states that the diplomatic relations with foreign Powers are essentially unchanged since last Congress. The pending questions with some of them are in course of amicable adjustment. Negotiations are going on with England respecting the fishery question, with a fair prospect of a favourable settlement for American fishermen. Embarrassing questions have also arisen with England respecting Central America. England proposes an amicable arrangement; and the American Minister in London is now negotiating. It recommends that a boundary-line between the United States and the British provinces in the north-west should be traced and marked.

The Message then reports that some progress has been made in negotiating a treaty of commerce and navigation with France, announces that since last Congress to attempts have been made by unauthorized individuals within the United States against the Spanish colonies, and promises that, should any movement be made, all the means at the President's command shall be vigorously exerted to repress them. It recommends the prompt payment of the Spanish claims in the case of the schooner *Atrevida*. Respecting Kossta, it reports that, after careful consideration, the President had arrived at the conclusion that Kossta was seized at Smyrna illegally, that he was wrongfully detained in an Austrian ship; that at the time of seizure he was clothed with American nationality; that the acts of the American officers under the circumstances were justifiable and fully approved; and that the claims of Kossta's Austria is declined. The principles maintained by the Secretary of State in his correspondence with Mr. Hulsemann will on all similar occasions be applied and enforced.

The Message then briefly refers to the China and Japan expeditions, and to the boundary dispute with Mexico, the question remaining unsettled; reports that the Minister at Brazil is instructed to endeavour to negotiate the treaty of navigation with the Brazilians; and that the Chinese Islands dispute with Peru is in a fair way of settlement, Peru indemnifying the outraged parties. The Treasury surplus for the fiscal year is 32,000,000 dollars, with which 15,000,000 dollars of the public debt has been paid, leaving the present debt 16,000,000 dollars. The Message further proposes in extinguishing the debt with the surplus; recommends a reduction of the tariff as the second best means of preventing a surplus; reports the navy to be inefficient, and recommends improvement; recommends an increase in the army, especially on the frontiers; reports the Post-office revenue at \$20,000,000; and recommends the construction of the Pacific Railway by all constitutional means; and concludes by briefly alluding to the death of Vice-President King.

The cholera was committing great ravages at New Orleans. 214 died in one day.

Mr. Linn Boyd had been elected Speaker of the House.

The Governor of Cuba, apprehensive of another expedition, was adopting vigorous measures to prevent it.

Letters from Mexico state that 200 armed men from San Francisco had landed at La Paz, Lower California, and taken possession of the town.

The United States steamer *Humboldt*, in making for Halifax, ran ashore on the Sisters' Rocks, about twelve miles from Halifax, and remained. At last accounts she was full of water, and had commenced going to pieces, and it was thought she would be a total loss. Crew and passengers saved.

The British ship *Triton*, at Charleston, from Liverpool, when off Seilly, on the 17th of October, experienced a heavy gale from S.W. to N.W., in which, which her main-topgallant-mast and yards had to be cut away; and, in consequence, she was obliged to return to Liverpool. The British ship *Queen*, from Liverpool, when off Seilly, on the 17th of October, experienced a heavy gale from S.W. to N.W., in which, which her main-topgallant-mast and yards had to be cut away; and, in consequence, she was obliged to return to Liverpool. The British ship *Queen*, from Liverpool, when off Seilly, on the 17th of October, experienced a heavy gale from S.W. to N.W., in which, which her main-topgallant-mast and yards had to be cut away; and, in consequence, she was obliged to return to Liverpool.

## CANADA.

QUEBEC, DEC. 1.—The winter season has fairly set in. The British ship *Britannia*, while at anchor off Quebec, on the 28th ult., was cut through by ice and waterlogged; she was towed to Wolfe's Cove. The British ship *John Campbell* had to stop her anchor to escape the ice, and was towed to the Cove. Captain Howell, of the British bark *Elizabeth*, which went ashore at Rivière du Loup on the night of the 28th ult., reports nine British vessels ashore at Hare Island and Rivière du Loup. One of these barks, the *Mount Washington*, has since passed Rivière du Loup safely. Another bark, the *British Queen*, was surrounded by ice on the 28th ult., and the crew had abandoned her. Twenty-one square-rigged vessels, of upwards of 12,000 tons, some were loaded, would probably have to winter in Quebec. Several had taken up winter berths on the 30th. The *Wilmot*, of 7,000 tons, was wrecked, and the crew were also ashore at Hare Island. Several ships are reported ashore at Bic.

## AUSTRALIA.

SYDNEY, SEPT. 19.—The discussion on the Constitution Act, which during the past two months has excited so much of the public attention, almost shutting it out from the list of imports and the gold returns, is suspended for a time. According to the suggestion of Mr. W. E. Williams, a member of the Government party, the second reading of the bill was not to be presented to the Council to an absolute acceptance of its provisions, but was only to be taken as affirming the fact that the future Legislature shall consist of two Houses. Whether the House of Representatives be elected, or nominated by the Crown, it was proposed should be left to an open question till the opinion of the inhabitants of the colony at large had been fully ascertained. With this reservation, the bill was read a second time on the 2nd of September, after a majority of the House, with short adjournment, had expressed a majority of the House to the effect that the amendment moved by Mr. Darvall, that it be read a second time that day six months, being rejected.

All the other measures of the session have only a local importance. All the plans of the Government with regard to the future of the province have probably been rendered more confused by the very much repeated taken by Mr. Latrobe in reference to those of Victoria. After refusing even to reduce the amount of the fee on the petition of the diggers, and representing the impolicy of abolishing the tax, his sudden change of view, by which he has now agreed to concede more than the diggers themselves asked, and done away with the fee altogether. The agitation on the gold fields had in the meantime assumed a rather alarming appearance, but throughout all the demonstrations the spokesmen of the miners had expressed the readiness of the men to pay a fee of 10s.

a month, provided some alterations were made in the mode of collecting it. But from unconditional resistance of the miners, Mr. Latrobe has gone to the other extreme, and more than was asked, and deprived the province of some £700,000 of annual revenue at a stroke. It was, of course, impossible to collect such a tax, among such a peculiar population, at the point of the bayonet; but the offer of the diggers themselves, by which a third of that large revenue would have been saved, was at least worth listening to. How the loss is to be supplied is not yet known. It is believed here that an export duty on the gold raised will be attempted to be levied. The addition of the fee, though announced by Governor Latrobe, will not be immediate; till the necessary act can be passed, a license for three months; at the expiration of that period, unless an equally sudden change of policy occurs, no payment except a small fee to secure a kind of rough registration of the population will be required. Here the Gold Regulations Committee will be it is understood, go beyond a recommendation of the fee be reduced to a penny, and probably the action of Victoria before the next three months expire will modify the Governor's proposal, which is marked by haste, if not panic, to the same extent.

TRIAL OF THE GOLD ROBBERS IN AUSTRALIA.—The ringleaders of the daring gang of Melbourne highwaymen who stopped the Melbourne and coast, only released it of nearly £100,000 of treasure in July last, have at length been brought to justice. They turned out to be notorious London thieves, who had been transported to the colony, and were known by the names of George Melville, George Wilson, and William Atkins. The trial, which excited very great interest at Melbourne, took place on the 12th Sept., at the Criminal Superior Court before Mr. Justice Williams, the Attorney-General of the colony prosecuting, and occupied two days. They were severely indicted for attempting to murder, by shooting and robbery on the highway. The guilt of the prisoners was mainly established through one of the gang turning approver. The jury, after forty minutes' deliberation, returned a verdict of Guilty against the whole of the prisoners. Sentence of death was decreed, the judge holding out no hopes of mercy.

## IRELAND.

## REPORTED ESCAPE OF SMITH O'BRIEN.

The *Lincoln Reporter* states, on the authority of a Melbourne correspondent, that Smith O'Brien has made his escape from the penal colony. He had been released, it is said, by the courage and fidelity of a few Irish friends in the colony, and the sympathetic aid of the commander of an American trading-vessel, which was in the offing, to take him away to the free shores of Columbia. There is no doubt whatever, the *Frederator* says, of the fact; and we need not state that we feel considerable pleasure in being the first medium of giving notice of the writer of the letter was one of those who assisted Smith O'Brien in his escape. We may add that Smith O'Brien was bound by no parole.

## THE LATE STORM.

The hurricane of Saturday and Sunday appears to have been general along the Irish coast.

The brig *Dumley*, of Cork, in ballast, was compelled to run into Kingston harbour on Saturday night, and, when bringing up, she ran on board the sunken ship *Dumley*, which was lying on her side, and was blown to Wicklow, when, unfortunately, the ship went to the bottom; crew saved. The schooner *Victoria*, William Raymond, master, from Gloucester, bound to Dublin, with a cargo of bark and iron, was run into by another brig, which lay across her bows, on Monday, and also foundered at her anchors; crew saved. The steamer *Edina* broke her shaft 1.4.4. on Monday morning, when with eight miles of Holyhead, with the London mails. The lifeboat was got out, and the mails put on board the S. Columbia.

The river steam, swollen by the floods and recent rains, coming in contact with the tide-belt, which had caused a choppy sea, which ran in waves at high water clear over the wharves. The quays were thronged with numbers of people, many of whom were in expectation of relatives and friends, whose arrival they anxiously awaited, and many might be seen watching for the arrival of the Liverpool steamers. A regular fleet of vessels of all rigs and sizes sought shelter. The river, under double moorings. So severe was the storm, which yet continued, that the collier brig at the quays sent down and housed their upper yards.

A fine brig was seen at daylight on Friday morning ashore on the sand in the neighbourhood of Layton, on the point of Oranmore. The coast guard force on the coast were on the alert at daybreak, but, owing to the tremendous surf running on the reef, and breaking over the ship, it was found impossible to approach the vessel. Seven of the crew were seen clinging to the rigging, and, unhappily, all were lost to their rescuers. A message was sent up by Mr. Scrovel, of the Customs house docks, for a lifeboat, which could not be brought to the rescue of the crew by reason of the impracticable nature of the coast and the heavy weather. Before evening three of the unhappy men who had been clinging for life to the rigging had been swept off by the waves. The men were still holding on to the ropes, with the waves lashing over them.

## SCOTLAND.

## STRIKE FOR A HALF-DAY HOLIDAY.

Symptoms of the fever for strikes are exhibiting itself in this country. In Dundee the iron-workers have struck for a weekly half-holiday; and, as is generally the case, they seem to have been instigated by an adventurer or an enthusiast, who is ignorant of their real position, and careless of their real interests. There are rumours of more extensive strikes impending in the west country; and we understand that in the present state of the market the manufacturers would not regard such an event as by any means a misfortune.

## CHOLERA IN DUNDEE.

The cholera still continues to rage in Dundee; between the 8th and the 13th there were 37 new cases, and 32 deaths, making the total, since the outbreak of the epidemic, 408 cases, and 382 deaths. Three cases have occurred in Arbroath during the week; one case has been reported in Edinburgh. The disease has exhibited itself at Dalry, in Ayrshire; and at Paisley, near Ayrshire, it has been very prevalent during the last week.

## SUSPECTED MURDER.

A few weeks ago a case of suspected murder was reported, which had occurred under rather extraordinary circumstances, in the parish of St. Margaret, near Peterhead, Scotland, the victim being a respectable labourer, named James Smith, who was killed by a man named John Smith, who was supposed to be the murderer. The prisoner had been apprehended, and a full investigation has been made, the result of which has just been made known to the Lord Advocate for Scotland, upon whom it lies to determine whether or not the accused shall take his trial for the deed. Meantime Dr. Smith continues in close confinement in the jail of Peterhead.

## WIFE-MURDER AT LEITH.

At the High Court of Justiciary, Edinburgh, on Monday last, William Cunningham, seaman, was convicted of the murder of his wife, by repeated ascertained and barbarous tortures. The prisoner pleaded Not Guilty. Several witnesses were called, and the most brutal facts of the case were proved. Medical testimony was then called, and a long catalogue of injuries resulting from violence was proved. The immediate cause of death was asphyxiation of the brain, caused by external violence. She was otherwise a healthy woman. The prisoner, in his declarations, admitted having struck his wife with his hand on one evening, but alleged that he knew nothing of the more severe injuries, which she must have got, he said, when out on another evening. He asserted that she was going to drinking.

The Lord Justice-Clerk, in reviewing the case, remarked that the deceased appeared to have been a quiet, gentle, industrious woman, and, during the period to which the evidence related, there was no evidence of her drinking; but whether she had been given to drink or not, it was high time that a jury should sternly lay aside such considerations when they found women beaten to death in the shocking manner that had of late been disclosed in several cases in Scotland.

The jury, after brief deliberation, unanimously returned a verdict of Guilty.

The Lord Justice-Clerk passed sentence of execution on the prisoner. In discharging the jury, he intimated that their verdict had the full assent and unhesitating concurrence of the Court.

The prisoner then said in a firm tone, "Will you allow me to speak, my lord? I have been at sea for forty years, and for twenty-five years have served Government (meaning the East India Company) faithfully, and have done my duty as a man. Though the sentence of death has been passed upon me, I can assure you that I did it with no intention of committing murder. I am innocent of that; and I trust the Lord will have mercy on me."

The Lord Justice-Clerk addressed him, and said, "William Cunningham, you may rely on that your best hope is not to cherish such feelings, but to humble yourself before Almighty God, to acknowledge your guilt, and to implore, by fervent and instant prayer, that mercy which you hope to obtain. Shut not your mind against the influences of conviction by any hopes of pardon; and, above all, shut not your mind by mistaken notions of your guilt on this occasion."

## METROPOLITAN NEWS.

LICENSED VICTUALERS' ASYLUM.—On Tuesday evening, the gentlemen forming the board of management of the asylum dined together at Batley's Hotel, Bridge-street, Blackfriars, when advantage was taken of the occasion to present to the retiring chairman, Mr. Bryon, a handsome testimonial, consisting of a splendid cup and cover, elegantly and richly engraved, with an emblematic illustration of the asylum, as a tribute of respect, not only for the efficient services which during his year of office he rendered to the asylum, but also as an expression of their feelings for the courtesy and kindness which he displayed upon all occasions towards his colleagues at the board.

A public meeting, convened at the request of the retiring chairman, of the "Labour Parliament," was held on Tuesday night, at the John-street Institution, Fitzroy-square. At the hour appointed for taking the chair there were very few persons present, and the meeting was throughout thinly attended. It was announced in the placard that several trades' union delegates had been invited, but none of these parties made their appearance. Mr. C. Murray moved a resolution to the effect "that, notwithstanding the objections to strikes, when believed in as an unerring method of promoting the interests of labour, we cannot but express our sympathy with, and approval of, the action of the delegates of Lancashire, who are on strike or locked out of employment; and we pledge ourselves to sustain, as best we can, the said operatives during their present struggle, to ameliorate their social condition." In supporting this resolution, the speaker, amidst considerable cheering, condemned, with great warmth, more trade unions, and expatiated on the advantages of a "Labour Parliament." The resolution having been seconded by Mr. Bligh, was agreed to. Mr. J. Ellis moved "that, for the purpose of providing a power to guard and advance the rights of labour, we hereby pledge ourselves to render our assistance to establish as speedily as possible the proposed Labour Parliament." The resolution having been seconded, was supported by Mr. J. B. O'Brien; and several other speakers having addressed the meeting, the proceedings closed with a vote of thanks to the chairman.

DEATH FROM EATING LOZENGES.—On Saturday last, Mr. William Carter, the Surrey corner, held an inquest at the carpenters' Arms, Pleasant-place, White-church-square, London, on the body of Mrs. Emma Carter, aged forty-six, a lady of independent property, whose death occurred in the following manner.—Mrs. Caroline Williams said that her husband was at present abroad, and she in consequence had been living with the deceased in Pleasant-place. Three weeks last Wednesday, she purchased six lozenges of Mr. Ball, a London confectioner, who she had known for some time. She paid three halfpence, and which she gave to her sister, the deceased. She asked for some more lozenges. The deceased told her that she had taken them one night, for four nights in succession. About three days after, her month became affected, and her tongue and gums became swollen, and she went to Mr. Ball, who gave her some medicine, which she took. Finding that she did not get any better, she procured the attendance of Mr. Humble, who prescribed for her till she died, which took place on Tuesday week. The whole of the family, except witnesses, took some of the lozenges. Witness's child had some, which made it ill. She went to the doctor, and he told her to stop taking them, which she did. She was positive her sister did not eat them for the purpose of destroying life. The coroner addressed Mr. Ball, and said that the jury were of opinion that there was a great want of care on his part in dispensing this medicine; but looking at the whole of the case, they thought there were grave neglects as to come to them, and that it was his duty to take his trial for manslaughter; they had, therefore, returned a verdict of "Accidental death." Mr. Ball said he would never again sell any more of the same description of lozenges, and the proceedings terminated.

THE COCA-TREE GAMBLING CLUB.—The police made another attack, last week, on the Cocoa-tree Gambling Club, St. James's-street, better known as "Charles Ley's," the fourth within about six months, but with no better result than in the preceding instances. Those found in the house and taken into custody, in the majority of instances, gave fictitious names. The apartment in which the defendants were found was fitted up as a billiard-room, with three tables. The room was thoroughly searched, but no gambling-implements whatever of an unlawful kind were found, nor any in their possession. They were charged at Marlborough-street; but their being no case against the defendants, they were discharged.

ADULT BARR.—It is rumored that the Government are not disposed to grant £50,000, towards the estimate of the cost of the park, viz. 250,000, leaving the balance to be supplied by the borough, in the shape of an improvement rate, extending over a lengthened period, which, as the money will not be required instantly, will not be overburdenous to the ratepayers. The land to be purchased and taken into the park, by parliamentary notice, is in the parishes of St. Mary, Edlington, Hornsey, and Stoke Newington, in all about 400 acres. The plans will be deposited for public inspection with the parish clerks of St. Mary, Edlington, Hornsey, and Stoke Newington, on the 31st of December.

THE LATE ROBBERY OF LEITH IN THE STRAND.—On further inquiry into the above extraordinary daring, and most ingenious, perpetrated robbery of jewellery, effected from a brougham in the Strand, it has been found that the property, instead of being of the value of about 1000*l.*, absolutely exceeds 3000*l.* in amount. It would seem that the brougham, when contained, in addition to the robbery, a commercial traveller from a wholesale jeweller in Hatton-garden, had just sooner set down the traveller than a genteel-looking young man made some inquiries of the driver as to the way to a street at the west-end. He thus opened a conversation, in which he kept the driver engaged for some minutes, and on the return of the driver to the brougham, the case of the doors was found to be open, and the leather bag containing the valuable property missing. This had no doubt been abstracted by an accomplice of the young man, who had for that purpose been evidently engaged by the driver in conversation. Some inspection was in the first instance attached to the driver, from which, however, he was eventually exonerated, in consequence of many thousands of pounds' worth of similar property, which was stored in the boat immediately under his eye, having been found perfectly safe. Up to the present time, notwithstanding the

A VERY serious collision took place on Sunday evening, in the Halfway Reach of the river, between the Erith and Barking-keel, by which the well-known Gravesend steamer Meteor, belonging to the South Eastern Packet Company, was run down by the Sylph, Dublin and London steamship, her passengers and crew having a narrow escape of perishing with the Meteor. The Meteor left the Brunswick-pier at Blackwall on Sunday evening, five o'clock, with between forty and fifty passengers on board. The night was rather dark, and a slight haze hung over the river, but vessels could be observed some distance off. The tide was ebbing, which was in favour of the Meteor. The master occupied his proper position on the bridge of the paddle-boxes, two men were forward on the look-out, and two at the wheel. She also appears to have exhibited the usual



lights. At six o'clock, after rounding the point above the Half-way House, as it is called, the Meteor shaped a course towards the Kent shore, when the crew observed a large sea-going steamer, the Sylph, coming up. As soon as possible after she was sighted Mr. Hollingsworth, the master, directed the helm to be ported, so as to go closer to the south side, in accordance with the Admiralty regulations. He imagined that the Meteor's lights had been observed by those on board the Sylph, and that she would have gone to the northward. Perceiving that the Sylph was bearing down upon them, the master of the Meteor hailed her to "port her helm." No answer was returned. Still she kept on, as represented by those belonging to the Meteor, and at full speed. Already had their engines been stopped and reversed, in the hope of avoiding a collision; it was, however, inevitable. The Sylph struck her with tremendous force just above her larboard paddle-box, completely burying her bows in the forepart of the Meteor, and driving her almost down to the keel. A most distressing scene immediately followed; everyone expecting that she would momentarily go down, a desperate rush was made to the bows of the Sylph; and in consequence of her height, the darkness of the evening, and the excitement that prevailed, many must have fallen overboard but for the self-possession and exertions of the crew. By far the most marvellous escape of those on board, however, was that of twenty or thirty men and women, who were in the fore cabin at the moment of the ships coming in contact, and unconscious of the danger until the Sylph's bow actually burst in upon them, carrying away the steward's pantry, the companion ladder, and reaching more than half way across the beam of the vessel, shutting out all escape for them by the cabin-door. Their position at once became perilous in the extreme. The water was pouring through the small side port-windows, flooding the cabin to such an extent that several of the passengers were up to their waists in water. Their cries attracted the attention of Mr. Hollingsworth, who at once, with the assistance of his own men and those of the Sylph, tore away the framework of the cabin skylights, and by that means succeeded in rescuing them. Had the Meteor separated from the bows of the Sylph, no human power could have saved them, and they must have been drowned in the cabin, for as soon as the vessels did part she went down head first immediately. Had they cleared each other within a minute or so of the collision, the loss of life would have been fearful to contemplate. In order to prevent her sinking in mid-channel, and thereby in the way of the navigation of the river, the engines of the Sylph were put in motion, and the wrecked steamer, still hanging to it, was driven on towards shallow water, when the Sylph backed out,

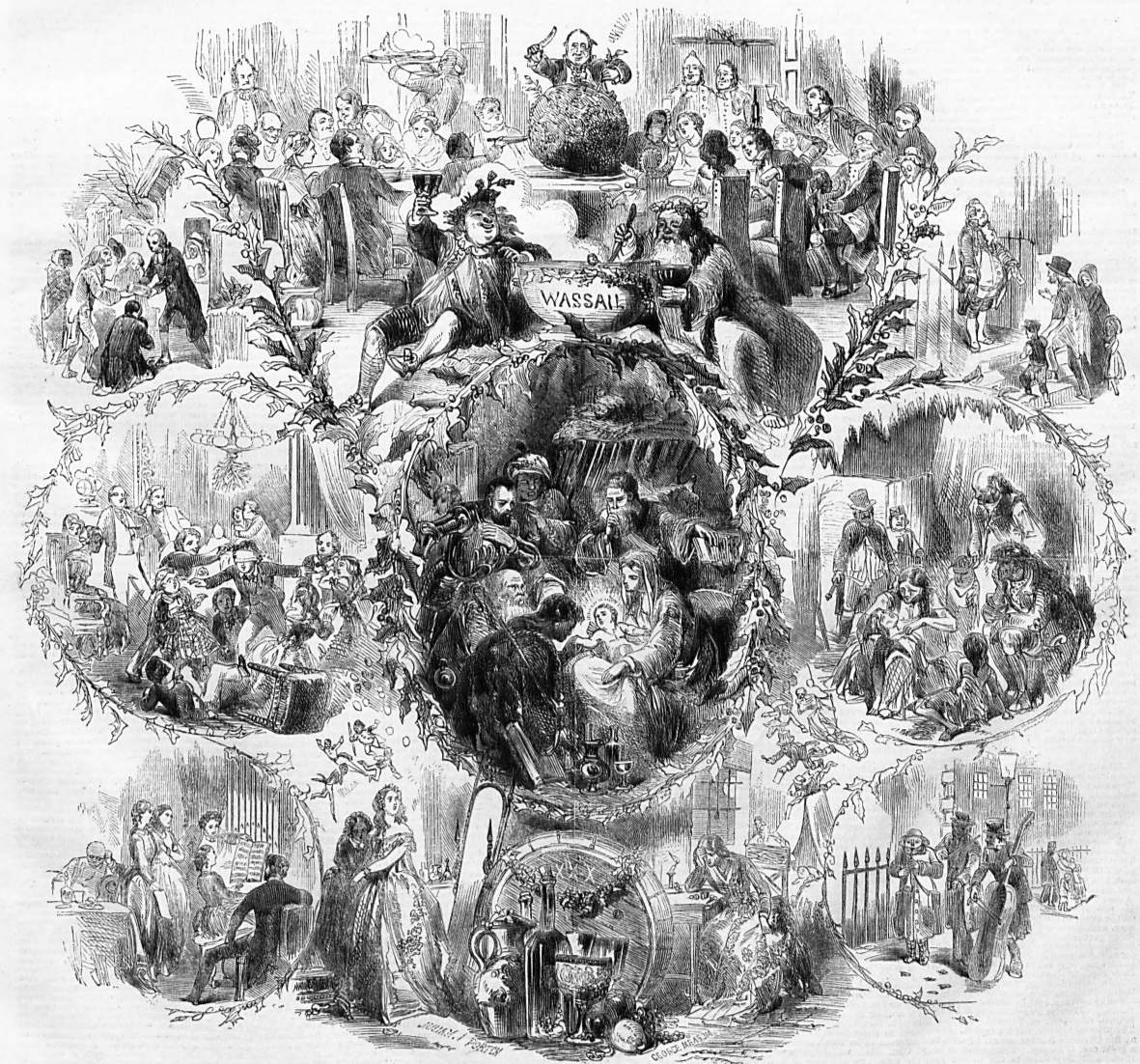
and the Meteor went down. The account furnished by the officers of the Sylph is somewhat different to that given by the crew of the Meteor, in respect to the course she was pursuing. It is quite clear that the Sylph had the lights required by the Admiralty regulations; but it would seem that this rule is not applicable to what are known as river steamers, those plying from Sheerness, Southend, Gravesend, &c., as they only hoist a white light at the bow, and another similar light up the funnel. Vessels lying at anchor are enjoined by the Admiralty notice to exhibit a white light at their mast-head, so that, should the white bow light of a river steamer become obscured, it is quite possible that the vessel might be mistaken for one riding at anchor.

#### THE BATTLE OF OLTENITZA.

The following is an extract from a private letter:—

"—, of the — has just returned from Constantinople, and certainly has been extremely lucky. He got letters from the Seraskier Pasha to Omar Pasha, who treated him with the greatest kindness. He arrived the day before the action, and he sat beside Omar during the whole of the battle. They had a most brilliant view of the whole thing—a beautiful sunny morning, without a cloud; and a fine west wind blowing the smoke away. They were on the south side of the Danube, where it is only a third of a mile in breadth; and the bank on their side being very high ground, they sat and looked down on the plain on the opposite shore, which is flat, so that the Russian fire all struck 100 feet below the spot where Omar Pasha and his staff were placed. The action began at eleven o'clock, by several columns of Russians—in all about 10,000—crossing the plain to attack the Turkish intrenchments, which had been hastily thrown up in the night, the Turks having crossed to the number of 4000 the previous evening. The Turks allowed these columns to advance well into the plain; and then the heavy batteries which were Omar Pasha's head (on the right bank) opened upon them; next the batteries on the island, and then the guns in the intrenchment; which last were of small calibre, and only six in number. — says it was a tremendous sight to see the effect of the Turkish guns on the Russian columns the moment they had got the range. The Turks are inferior to none in artillery, and they tore the columns to pieces. The whole action lasted four hours. The Russians continued advancing, their guns playing into the intrenchment, which was little more than breast high; but when they got close up the carnage was frightful, as the Turks had 500 armed

with the Minie rifle, and drilled on the Chasseurs de Vincennes system, who picked them off at every shot, besides the incessant fire of grape which the Turks kept up. — says he saw the heavy shot and grape clearing regular alleys through the columns. He looked down and saw everything as perfectly as if it were a review seen from a hill. He saw one officer knocked down from his horse, who was evidently a general, for they immediately carried him far to the rear; and a carriage drove up furiously and took him away. By the time the columns were within 300 yards they deployed, and Omar Pasha and everyone expected to see them attempt to storm this low intrenchment with the bayonet, as they were three times the number of the Turks. But, after marching to within twenty yards of the narrow ditch—which my friend cleared at an easy jump, entrenchment and all, immediately after the action—they fairly turned tail and ran for it; the Turks giving them grape and musketry till they were out of sight. The Russians had about fifteen guns with them the whole time, which did a good deal of execution, killing a few Turks and a great many horses; the latter, of course, standing higher than the parapet, for they had some irregular cavalry in the work. The Turkish artillery and musketry were kept up with a rapidity of fire that — could not have imagined. Omar Pasha is about fifty years of age, adorned by his army, of great military acquirements and information, and a perfect Turk in coolness and presence of mind. The whole four hours of the action he sat cross-legged, with his long pipe in his hand, never at any moment changing a muscle of his countenance, and directing everything himself by means of his bugler, who stood beside him, and sounded to the intrenchment across the river any order required. Several French, Spanish, and other foreigners in the Turkish service who were present, all agreed that they never saw anything so grand or so perfect in the whole course of their experience; and perhaps no other action was ever seen so perfectly in all its details. The enthusiasm of the Turks was tremendous when the Russians broke and ran. The cry of 'God bless the Sultan!' rose from the intrenchments, the island, and the whole Turkish army behind Omar. One thing speaks badly for the Russians. — saw the officers pricking their men on with their swords to try to make them dash on, but they would not. He walked over the field half an hour after the action, and describes the carnage as immense. There must have been 1000 killed, and wounded innumerable—lying in dozens, dismembered and torn to pieces by the grape, thrown in a *bona parient*. The Russians are very sickly. The Turks, on the contrary, are in high condition and great spirits. The senior medical officer, a Frenchman, assured — that he had only two per cent. sick."



THE DAY OF FEASTS.





is discovered to have had none, is sure to make the best husband. Patience like his deserves to be rewarded with the best of wives and the best of mothers-in-law. My dears, when you meet with such a man, do your utmost to marry him. In the severest winter he would not mind going to bed *foot*. *Small*. *Backed back*.

He laid hold of Frederick as he was endeavouring to make his escape, and told him to give himself up. The other prisoners got away; but Frederick was conveyed to the station-house, on the road to which he dropped a watch. Adams, 48 S., heard the rattle spring, and, on going to the spot, found all the prisoners struggling with the first witness in the garden adjoining Mr. Thomson's. When they saw witness, Adams and Capt. A. Barnard, who

going to bed first.—*Punch's Pocket-book.*

THE EGYPTIAN COURT OF THE CRYSTAL PALACE.



## THE CRYSTAL PALACE AT SYDENHAM.

## EGYPTIAN COURT.

In turning to the interior of the CRYSTAL PALACE, it may be well just to remind our readers of the general arrangement of the building in its former position, before describing it in its present form. It consisted *then* of the great nave, with its flat roof extending the entire length of the building, and intersected near the centre by the transept—the only portion which had the coved form of roof. On either side of the nave there were the minor avenues, of less width and height, and between them the numerous courts which formed the most interesting feature in the Great Exhibition of 1851.

The designers of the Crystal Palace have been enabled to render the arrangement of the interior of the building more regular, as well as more

striking, without detriment to the simplicity of the construction, which is the distinguishing characteristic of the structure, and was so admirably adapted to its original purpose. We still see the great central nave, but it is now covered with a semi-cylindrical roof throughout its whole extent, which has added 44 feet to the height, and very much improved the proportions. Three transepts intersect this main avenue at right angles; the principal one in the centre 120 feet wide, the others near the end of the same span as the nave; these also have the arched form of roof. The length of the transepts rather exceeds the dimensions of the width of the building, the centre one being 384 feet long, and those at the ends 336 feet. The breaking up of the long vista of the nave, by the additional transepts, has relieved the monotony of the uninterrupted perspective of columns, which was felt to be a defect in the former building; and the improvement has been still further carried out by forming projecting bays into the nave at intervals of 72 feet along the length. The minor avenues on either side of the nave are returned round the ends of the

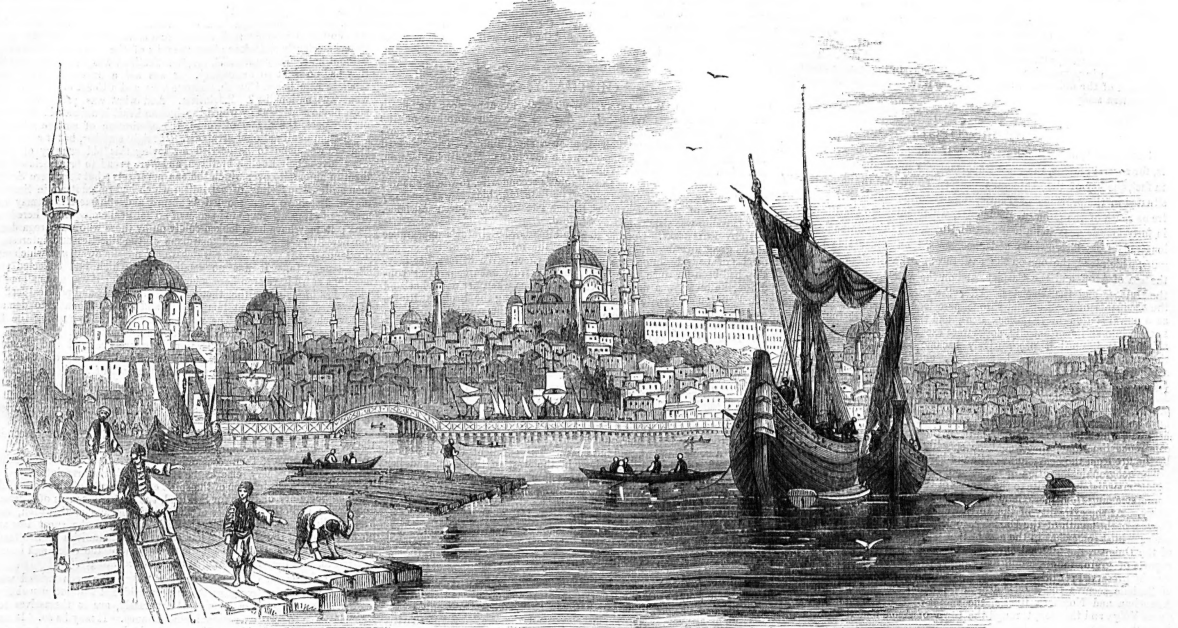
transepts, and inclose a series of courts somewhat similar to those of the Great Exhibition building; and it is to these courts we now wish to direct attention, leaving the further general description of the building for a future occasion, when we may be enabled to render it both more interesting and intelligible by the assistance of a general view of the interior. We will only add, that the building stands very nearly north and south in the direction of its length, so that the principal front towards the park faces nearly east, and the entrance front, therefore, the west.

In the northern half of the building the courts are devoted to the Fine Arts; and the collection of casts which they contain will form the most complete museum of sculpture of all periods ever brought together in one place. In order to render these courts fit receptacles for so valuable a museum, as well as to make them both more interesting and instructive, they have been built in the several styles of architecture appropriate to the sculpture they will contain; and the surfaces of the walls and ceilings thus obtained afford an opportunity for the introduction of painted decora





## CITY OF CONSTANTINOPLE.



tions in further illustration of the various styles. The architectural details have, in all cases, been adapted from existing buildings of the different periods of art illustrated, so that they may form authoritative examples for the student of those several styles. The courts are so arranged that, in passing from one to the other, the visitor encounters the different styles of art in the chronological order in which they succeeded one another, at least so far as such an arrangement is practicable; and we have accordingly the following succession. Commencing with the Egyptian, we pass into the Greek, thence to the Roman, and next into the Moorish. These form the series on the west side of the nave. On the east side we enter the Byzantine, pass next into the Medieval or Gothic, thence into the Renaissance, and lastly into the Italian. To these series an Assyrian court has been added at the northern end of the building, and it is in contemplation to place an Indian court by the side of the latter. One court, devoted to the Fine Arts, has been separated from the rest and placed adjoining the south transept: this illustrates the style of the extinct Roman city of Pompeii, and forms one of the most interesting of the series. The other courts in the southern half of the building will be devoted to the exhibition of manufactures, &c.; and four large courts, contiguous to the centre transept, will form museums of natural history, &c. The carrying out of the Fine Art courts has been placed under the direction of architects whose names are sufficiently well known amply to justify their selection by the directors of the company for the posts they occupy. The four courts first enumerated above have been designed and carried out by Mr. Owen Jones, whose decoration of the building for the Great Exhibition, in 1851, was so eminently successful.

The second group of four are presided over by Mr. Digby Wyatt, whose name is also well known from his connection with the same undertaking; Mr. Wyatt has also directed the work in the Pompeian court. The Assyrian court is being carried out under the direction of Mr. Fergusson, whose writings on the architecture of the East have constituted him an authority on that subject. Mr. Fergusson has, we believe, been aided by the experience of the well-known explorer of Nineveh, Dr. Layard.

We have thought it necessary to give the reader thus much of general introduction to the interior of the Crystal Palace, to enable him, in some degree, to connect the remarks we may take occasion to make on the different parts of the building that it is our intention successively to illustrate; and we will now, therefore, confine our attention to the Egyptian court, of which a view is given. The portion of the court here seen may be called the back, as the principal front of this, as well of the other Fine Art courts, faces towards the nave. On the right hand side of our sketch is seen the entrance into the hall of columns, taken from the great hall of the palace at Karnak, the site of the ancient city of Thebes. The date of the erection of this stupendous monument has been fixed about the middle of the fifteenth century before the Christian era. As this structure is on a most colossal scale, a small portion only could be reproduced, and even that at a very reduced scale; so that, although the forms and details of the original have been strictly adhered to, the imposing effect produced by the vast size of this magnificent ruin must necessarily be supplied by the imagination of the spectator, which we will endeavour to aid by a few comparative dimensions. The great hall at Karnak has a width of 345 feet, and a depth of 155 feet, and its roof is supported by

134 columns, 8½ feet diameter, and 43 feet high. The portion reproduced in the Egyptian court measures 72 feet by 24 feet, and contains 22 columns, 3 feet 6 inches in diameter and 17 feet 6 inches high. The scale of the columns and details is, therefore, about two and a half to one; or, in other words, a man of average height should be represented as but little more than two feet high, in order to give the true relative proportion to the columns of the original. The whole of the surface of the columns and walls is covered with sculptured hieroglyphics, reduced from the scale of the original, and, like them, picked out in the most vivid colours. In this department, Mr. Owen Jones has availed himself of the valuable assistance of Mr. Bonomi, the well-known Eastern traveller, who accompanied the late Prussian expedition sent out to Egypt, under Dr. Lepsius, and thus became acquainted with the most recent discoveries among the antiquities of that interesting country.

The columns of the screen facing the spectator in the view are taken from an example in the temple at Denderah, the ancient Tentyris; this monument is of a much later date, having been commenced by Julius Cæsar and Cleopatra, and completed by subsequent Roman emperors. These columns are about one half the size of the originals. In the recess on the left a model on a small scale is introduced of the exterior of the colossal rock tomb at Abosimbel (or Ipsambul), in Lower Nubia, the most interesting monument of its kind of the early period of Egyptian art. The four sitting figures, which have the appearance of guarding the entrance to the tomb, are in the original 64 feet high, in their sitting posture; two of these will be reproduced in another part of the building, at full size, and will serve better than any description to convey an adequate



BAL MASQUE AT DRURY-LANE THEATRE.

idea of the vast dimensions of the monuments erected by this remarkable people. The scale of the model is rather less than one ninth of the actual size.

We propose, in a future notice of the Egyptian court, to give some general remarks on the style of art developed in the monuments of Egypt, as our space will not permit us to introduce them on the present occasion. We will merely add that in the view given the spectator is supposed to be standing with his back towards the central transept, and looking northward, so that the nave is on his right hand side. The long gallery seen in perspective through the columns in the centre extends at the back of the different courts, and is destined to receive the collection of modern sculpture.

SEBASTOPOL.

SEVASTOPOL, as the Russians spell and pronounce it, Sevastopol, is, for several reasons, the most important city in Southern Russia; and, in fact, the key of the Autocrat's usurped dominions in the East. It is situated in the province of Tauris, slightly to the north-west of the extreme south of the Crimean peninsula, which juts into the Black Sea in forty-four degrees and a half north latitude, and thirty-three degrees of longitude from Greenwich; and encompassed on either side by small gulches, which lead, the one on the east through the Straits of Enikale to the sea of Azoff and the Caspian, and on the west to the confluences of the Dniaper and the Dneister. After the treaty of Kainardji in 1774, the occupants of the Imperial throne were permitted to enclose it, as a naval arsenal, by a wall of masonry, and the small port immediately adjacent to an important city, docks were excavated, and slips for building ships erected, until it progressively became that which it now is—the one great naval arsenal, dockyard, and provision store in the Southern possessions of the Russian Empire, and is, as we may call it, the key of the Black Sea, five miles inland, and containing first—the Quarantine Bay; next, the Artillery Bay; and, thirdly, the Ships Bay. The streets are wide and straight. The public buildings, especially the Admiralty, have an imposing appearance; but, as the houses and the edifices of inferior rank are of a mean and sordid character, and the walls of the calcareous limestone, they would be speedily dismantled and destroyed by the fire from the heavy guns of line-of-battle ships.

The geographical position of Sebastopol cannot possibly be overrated. Lying immediately opposite to the mouth of the Danube, and at only a few hours' steaming from there, it absolutely commands the whole of the Black Sea. In the north, it is separated from the Crimean coast by the Black Sea in Odessa, at the mouth of the Dniester, containing a population of 60,000 souls; whilst somewhat to the east of that port is Kherzon, at the outlet of the Dnieper, the internal navigation of these great rivers, and the Black Sea, affords a direct communication with the interior of Central Russia, being thereby preserved; whilst, on the north-east gulf, the narrow entrance of Enikule secures the eider-down, furs, produce and manufactures, of the Caspian Sea, and the coast of the Volga and the Don, through the town of Azoff and the ports of Kertse.

A glance at the map will show that to the south-eastward of Sebastopol lie the Russian forts of Souchoum Kaleh and Redout Kaleh, with some minor fortifications, and the important post of Anapa, through which Russian troops, ammunition, and supplies are poured on by Akhazik to Tiflis, the capital of Georgia, where Prince Woronzow has established his head-quarters.

Should Sebastopol fall into the hands of the Turks, or its arsenal, stores, and materials of war be burnt, the imperial forces in Asia—devoid of reinforcements—would be cut off to a man, and not one Russian merchant-vessel would be afloat on the Black Sea; but before this can be accomplished, a great naval battle must be fought and won, and the powerful Russian fleet now in the Euxine be utterly destroyed.

THE GROTTA OF THE NATIVITY.

**APPROXES** to the day, and to the events of the day, we have given in our present number a faithful representation of the altar erected in the place where our Saviour was born—"the shrine of all Christendom." The Grotto of the Nativity is situated immediately under a church which is said to cover the ruins of the Stable; and there can be no reason to doubt its identity. Subterranean stables, we may remark, are still common in the East. A narrow flight of steps leads to the top, which is reached by a single door. The floor is composed of large slabs of silver; though ceiling and walls, low and irregular, still attest a rough place of refuge, hewn from the rock. The altar itself, illuminated by numerous brilliant lamps, and surrounded by clouds of incense, is built up of white marble, and rises to a height of about four feet. It is distinctly pointed out by a small circle of Jasper surrounded by silver rays, and by an inscription in Latin, "Hæc Jæsus Christus was born of the Virgin Mary." Almost any object may be seen in this grotto human or divine, and it is not unusual to find in motionless adoration, or kissing, the holy star with the silver rays.

PROFITS OF SPIRIT-RAPPING.—The Fox girls, says a New York paper, having rapped a large fortune out of the pockets of the people, have purchased a fine place in Harmonia, and retired to private life. If spiritualism is a humbug, they have found it a profitable one at least.

**SHOCK OF AN EARTHQUAKE IN VAN DIEMEN'S LAND.**—The *Hobart Town Advertiser*, of September 21, says: "We have received the following from a correspondent:—At ten minutes before six last evening we had a severe shock of an earthquake; the house, which is built of stone, shook severely. The tea-things were on the table at the time; the furniture, cups, saucers, &c., all danced; Mrs. Hobbs was sitting leaning against the side of a fireplace, my son William was by her leaning on his knee, and both of them held each other's hands. The shock was so violent that both of them felt it long after they got up. I saw both of them stooping at the time, and fell on her head. It only compares to the rolling of heavy wagons under an archway. All passed away to the north-east."

**THE RUSSIAN SQUADRON IN THE CHINESE SEAS.**—The *Handory* *Neva*, under command of Petersburg, of the Chinese coast, says:—"According to the Russian squadron in the China Sea state, says:—"On the 1st of August, all the vessels of which it is composed (the Pallada, the Orlowa corvette, Wostok schooner, and the Prince de Menschikov, belonging to the Russo-American Company) assembled in the port of Loid, and sailed on the 16th of August for Nougazaki. On the 22nd they anchored there, and the crews were received by the Japanese with cordiality. On the 1st, the commanding-officer of the squadron sent the Prince de Menschikov to Shanghai, to obtain information as to the state of affairs in China. She arrived there on the 8th of September, the day after the place had been taken by the rebels. On the 15th, the Menschikov sailed back to the strait of Tsushima."—

to resign the squirehood at Nanagani?"

The hon. the L.D.S.—The Government have adopted the suggestions thrown out so frequently, and from so many quarters, during the discussion on the India Bill last session, to convert the place of one of the Joint Secretaries of the Board of Control into a permanent office.

Hitherto the two joint secretariats of the board were parliamentary offices, and they were held by persons who had no connection with successive Administrations; but the necessity has arisen for a permanent officer of that rank has long been felt, and it has now been determined to assimilate the chief officer for the government of India to the officers of the Secretaries of State in that particular. It is known that the Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies, the Secretary of State for the Colonies, and the Secretary of State for India, are all members of the House of Commons, and Colonial Affairs, one is attached permanently to the office, without a seat in Parliament, and attends mainly to the legal and departmental business; while the other is a Member of Parliament, attends chiefly to the legislative part of the business, and is appointed to the Ministry. Sir Thomas Redington, K.C.B., is appointed to the permanent secretaryship under the new arrangement.

THE COURT.

HER Majesty, with his Royal Highness Prince Albert, and the junior members of the Royal Family, arrived at Windsor Castle on Thursday from the Isle of Wight, for the Christmas holidays. The royal party left Osborne at ten o'clock in the forenoon, travelling by the Basingstoke and Reading Railway-lines, and arrived at the Castle between one and two o'clock in the afternoon. It is expected the Court will remain at Windsor until the first week in February.

## OBITUARY.

**MARCHIONESS WELLESLEY.**—We regret to announce the death of the Marchioness Wellesley, widow of the elder brother of the late Duke of Wellington, who expired on Saturday last at her apartments, at Hampton Court Palace, after a short illness. The deceased Marianne, Marchioness Wellesley, was a daughter of Mr. Richard Caton and when the late Marquis Wellesley married her she was widow of Mr. Robert Patterson. She was the Marquis's second wife, to whom she was united on the 29th October, 1825. The Late Marchioness was for many years Lady of the Bedchamber to her late Majesty Queen Adelaide. Her ladyship was sister of Lady Stafford.

**LADY EGLINTON**—Coming so soon after Lord Eglington's appearance at the great meeting on Thursday week, the intelligence of the sudden demise of Lady Eglington has a startling effect. We believe her ladyship had been for some time past suffering from aneurism. Her condition, however, was considered dangerous when the noble lady had been informed that the great meeting would be held at the Scotch Bazaar Meeting, in the Glasgow City Hall. During the night her ladyship became worse, and she expired at four o'clock on the morning of Friday, the 10th instant. The mournful intelligence was at once communicated to her lordship, who was staying over night in Glasgow, and he arrived at his residence at eight o'clock on the morning of Saturday, the 11th instant. Lady Eglington, a daughter of Charles Newcomen, Esq., and widow of Richard Howe Cockrell, Esq., was married in 1841 to the Earl of Eglington and Winton, by whom she has left issue, Archibald, William, Lord Eglington, born 1849; Lady Eglington, born 1850; and George, born 1856. She was a noble and generous person, her countenance was only the reflection of a noble mind and a kind heart. The excellent Ragged School of Ayr, and all kindred institutions in the west of Scotland, had her sympathy. She was a devoted friend of the Glasgow Bazaar, and she attended the examination of some band of poor scholars picked up from the streets.

Grossi, like Italy he just sustained a severe loss by the death of Thommaso Grossi—next to Manzoni, her most distinguished literary man, though the author of several poetical works, he is best known in England as the writer of "Marco Visconti," one of the few good Italian novels. He was the bosom friend of Manzoni, and Massimo d'Azeglio; and although, like the former, he did not take any active part in politics, seriously enough, he was the notary who drew up and attested the act of union between Piedmont and Lombardy in 1848. Grossi was only thirty years of age, and was as much beloved for the sweetness and suavity of his disposition as admired for his literary talents.

SCOTTISH GRIEVANCES.—GREAT DEMONSTRATION IN GLASGOW.

On Thursday were the members of the National Association for the Indication of Scottish Rights held a meeting in the City Hall, Glasgow. The place assemblage is the largest in Scotland; but long before seven o'clock, "the hour of cause," it was densely filled in every part—areas, galleries, and passages. In point of numbers, intelligence, wealth, and commercial and manufacturing status, we have not on any previous occasion seen an assemblage in Glasgow, or the west of Scotland, to excel or perhaps to rival it. In all, upwards of 3000 persons were present, and there were present several hundreds of ladies, the meeting had together a most gay and lightsome aspect.

Mr. William West Watson, the Senior Baillie of Glasgow, and eminent merchant, filled the chair. He stated that, among others, letters of apology had been received from several noblemen and gentlemen, the Duke of Montrose being among the number.

The CHAIRMAN shortly addressed the meeting and explained its objects; then the Earl of EGLINTON, presenting himself to speak, was received with loud and repeated cheers, the immense company rising to their feet in a chorus of "God bless him." The object they had in view, stripped on the one hand of all party considerations, and on the other of all selfish motives, was a little too zealous advocacy, was to preserve for Scotland her national rights, so far as these are consistent with an united Imperial Legislature, and with constitutional government. Without invading the province of those who were to confer with him, he had at the same time put in a few words, by saying that they demanded that national feeling should be respected, national rights protected, and the Treaty of Union adhered to. The first demand they had to make was, that they have a Secretary of State who would have the same feeling, and would be ready to be their advocate. A lawyer who is a subordinate officer of the Ministry is unable to plead the interests of Scotland in Cabinet discussions. They required a Secretary of State for Scotland. We do not prescribe how that

to be done. We don't say though that office is to be revived, that it is to be coupled with that of Lord High Commissioner with the Privy Seal, but we say that we demand a Secretary for Scotland, and that we have a right to do so. (Cheers.) Then, again, they have not properly represented in the Imperial Parliament, they had no right to a considerable increase in the number of their representatives, and he complained that the royal palaces and parks of Scotland were allowed to go to ruin, and that the royal lands were sold and the proceeds thrown into the national Treasury. But they were told that the Queen does not live at Holyrood. Why, the Queen does not live at Hampton Court but it is kept up in a style worthy of the Sovereign.

tion Court, but, in the meantime, it was kept up in a style worthy of the Sovereign. The Queen, it was right to say, was not a Queen of Scotland, and, therefore, no distance for the northern portion of the kingdom might not be relied on, especially to hold her Court in the palace of her ancestors? The Queen could not hold her Court at Holyrood. The palace court of the House of Stuart was a fine ruin, but the neighbourhood of the city was such that the humors of our Scottish people would not tolerate there except under the wholesome dread of a bullfinch. Again, if English galleries, and museums, and public parks were constructed for Scotland, they ought to be constructed for the Scotch also; if, therefore, the Queen were to spend the hours of her day in the city, she might as well go to Scotland. If the police of England and Ireland were dead, the police of Scotland should also be paid. (Cheers.) If they were to construct magnificent mansions for post-offices elsewhere—(laughter)—they might as well construct some many rooms in the city of Edinburgh, as in Glasgow-street. (Laughter and cheers.) He (the noble lord) believed that the only sign of union at present existing in this edifice consisted in the iron grating with which it was prevented from falling down. The great sign of Union, he said, was in the terms as words were used, that the Mint, the Admiralty, and the Court of Exchequer should be served in Scotland. That was on what not only depends the union between the two countries, but the only document by which it was proved. Some time previously to the formation of this Union, the opinion of the noble lord was, that the people of Scotland were degraded, and in position assigned to them at the Union when quartered in the heraldic emblems. A great number of memorials were sent to him (Lord Eglinton), and he transmitted them to the Home Secretary. He thought it would be a good answer to him that these memorials (hissee), and no one knew whether a decision had

been come to or not, except the editor of one of the Edinburgh newspapers, who said that he had seen a report by the Lion-Depute of Scotland, who says that these memorialists are wrong in their heraldic opinions. The most unfair part of the transaction was, however, that our friends, in order to get the notice of the Lion-Depute, and of some of the other topics, open their whole batteries against these heraldic opinions, and open them with the view of holding us up to the ridicule of those who do not care about such things; and certainly they have seen something of the kind done in the case of the Duke of Devonshire, without facts. They were told, too, that Scotland was a province, and that they had no right to nationality. It was not a province. They had a separate Established Church, separate laws, and a Court of Session. But the worst of all was, that they were told that the Scotch people had the most noble sentiment by which the human heart is animated; the theme of the poet, the dream of youth, the admiration of mature years, the foundation of all national greatness. It might slumber, but it never died; and it was the duty of every Scotchman to cherish it, and to stir it up. They loved their English brethren, and were proud to be associated with them in an empire over which the sun never sets; but they were Scotchmen by first and last. The feeling of patriotism which had raised itself in Scotland may still be stirred up, and it is the duty of every Scotchman to do so. It has first been given utterance to by men of no political enmities or hereditary rancour; it may have been looked coldly on by those who were regarded as the hereditary and selected guardians of the liberties and interests of Scotland, and by those who would do nothing to stir up the feelings to be attended to. It was no more than what might have been collected such meetings as we have seen here said in Edinburgh; it was no small matter which has brought together thousands of every class and political feeling, and has stirred up the feelings of the Scotch people, and has made them that which is their due. The memorialists are not to be blamed for the following resolution, and resumed his seat amidst immense applause:—

"That the Treaty of the Union between Scotland and England recognises the supremacy, asserts the individuality, and provides for the preservation of the national laws and institutions of Scotland; that any attempt to subvert or place those institutions under English control, and on the pretence of a centralising economy, to deprive her of the benefit of local action, is an infraction of the true spirit of the treaty, and injurious to her welfare."

Mr. ALEXANDER MORRISON, Dean of Faculty in Glasgow, seconded the resolution, which was agreed to.

Professor **AYTOUN** then rose and was received with great cheering. After a few preliminary remarks, he read the following resolution:—  
 "That, in direct violation of the spirit of the Treaty of the Union, the

"That, in direct violation of the spirit of the Treaty of the Union, the office of Secretary of State for Scotland, the Scottish boards of Customs and Excise, and other branches of the Scottish local administration, have been abolished, or placed under English control, to the great loss and inconvenience of the merentile and shipping communities of Scotland; that Scotland is entitled to claim the restoration of the office and boards referred to, and the same should be restored accordingly."

The Professor then proceeded to say "We have been twitted with pardoning small grievances; and it has been said, not without plausibility, that we have been too ready to forgive ourselves. It is therefore for considerable to justify a national reformation. It may be so. It may be that we neither could, nor should have attempted agitation upon minor points; for of all people in the world, I think the Scots are the least amenable to the charge of vanity or reckless agitation. And yet, I think that the Government and the institutions of this country have peculiarly its own which is so preposterously governed as Scotland is at the present moment. And, he it observed, that we are not in the disadvantageous position of soliciting the erection of a new office. For more than half a century we have been without a Secretary of State. Now, I can quite ready to admit that the Secretaries of State for the Home Department have, for the most part, been men of great talent and ability. I believe that Lord Palmerston, if the question were fairly put to him, would acknowledge that he leaves the conduct of the business of the Government to his colleagues, the Lord Advocate." The learned Professor briefly continued his remarks in support of the resolution, and concluded amidst loud applause.

Mr. P. E. DOVE, of Edinburgh, moved the next resolution, which is as follows:—

“That the representatives returned by Scotland to the House of Commons are not in the relative proportion to the number of her people, or her amount of her revenue, as compared with those of England; and that his meeting is of opinion, that in order to give the voice of Scotland its ut weight in Parliament, that number should be increased to its fair proportion.

Mr. W. CAMPBELL, of Tillechewan, seconded the resolution, which was also carried.

Mr. BAILLIE COCHRANE then rose and was received with great applause. He proposed the next resolution, as follows:—  
 "That the National Association for the Vindication of Scottish Rights,

which devotes itself to the objects embraced in the resolutions adopted by this meeting, and advocates the principles put forth in the address to the people of Scotland issued by this association, is deserving of the cordial support of every true Scotsman."

Dr. A. D. ANDERSON, President of the Faculty of Physicians and Surgeons in Glasgow, seconded the resolution, which was agreed to.

Sir ARCHIBALD ALISON moved a vote of thanks to the chairman, which was carried amid loud cheers.

The meeting concluded with three hearty cheers for Lord Eglinton.

ESCAPE OF LORD JOHN RUSSELL FROM A RAILWAY ACCIDENT.—  
reporter has reached us that a few days since Lord John Russell, with  
some gentlemen, were about to return from Southampton to London,  
and that the first-class carriage in which his lordship had engaged a  
entire compartment was about to start, when Thomas Darven, her Mas-  
try's guard when travelling by the South-Western line, discovered that  
the tire of one of the wheels had snapped asunder. The carriage was  
removed, and another one substituted. The discovery is in all probability  
a fortunate one, judging from the many accidents which have arisen  
on the breaking or snapping of the tires of railway carriage-wheels.

**GREENWICH HOSPITAL.**—An important change has lately been made the mode of furnishing the dinner meal to the inmates of the Royal Hospital at Greenwich. It has hitherto been the practice to give the pensioners boiled meat, either beef or mutton, daily for dinner; it is now served alternately with baked meat, instead of boiled every day. Extensive baking-apparati have been erected in the kitchens of the building effect this new arrangement on the necessarily extensive scale required. The aged veterans are much pleased with the variety which this new arrangement affords them, and they are indebted to the authorities for this new arrangement. The late Governor, Sir Charles Adams, who is spoken of with the most affectionate regard, as one of the best and most considerate officers that ever filled the office of governor of this great national establishment.

**THE AUSTRALIAN MAILS.**—The public despair of ever seeing the ostensible authorities succeed in what they undertake, even by accident, by the overland route we have news to the middle of July, and after it came lumbering the letters for May. The Australian Royal Mail steamer "Victoria" was the first to start, but the "Australia" was not to start. The contract was withdrawn, made the quickest voyage by the Cape route that has yet been accomplished. But the mischief has been done by the previous failures, and confidence cannot easily be gained. The merchants are not so ready to entrust the mails to the overland route as they were once, and even once in two months may arrive or depart in the interval all a chance. Two steamers sometimes leave for England within twenty-four hours of each other, as was the case this week: the "Victoria" and the "Shanghai," and the latter is a vessel of no account, being comparatively useless, as they carried the same dates; if sailing at the interval of ten days or a fortnight, the accommodation would be invaluable. By such a methodous arrangement, the Shanghai sailed before the "Australia" for Straits, and the "Australia" sailed after it. The mails must remain unsecured for a month.



A CHRISTMAS RHYME.

**MALARIA IN A BALLROOM.**—Much excitement and distress have been occasioned in several families among the *déte* of Glanorogmarshire, South Wales, by a fever of obstinate and fatal character having attacked a number of those who attended the recent Raco Ball in connexion with the Cowbridge Hunt. The ball passed off with great brilliancy, but a few days afterwards an epidemic, strongly resembling that at Croydon, broke out among nearly all the guests. Members of nearly all the leading families in the district, including those of Sir G. Tyler, M.P., Mr. Booker, M.P., Doctor Carne, &c., are still suffering, and two persons have been huried to an untimely grave—the Reverend George Traherne, a highly-esteemed clergyman, and Miss Richards, of Roath, a young and lovely woman. The origin of this distressing malady is said to be the singing of a waltz-tune (which had been popular for twenty years) during some alterations going on close to the vignette of the ball-room.

reet, East India-road, Poplar. It was  
n the grate, and setting a horse of clothes  
avelled round the room. A great de

Another fire happened in the neighbourhood of Bloomsbury-square, but the damage done was only of a trifling character.

[illegible]

On Tuesday evening, after locking many of the prisoners in the jail, Mr. John Hall, of Swanton, New York, a Scotchman, was at York, attending the great Christmas horse-show. On Tuesday evening, between five and six o'clock, being intoxicated, he fell into the company of two girls, who induced him to accompany them to the King's Stables, a dark, narrow, and filthy stable, where they were waiting for him. The first named Sargent saw Mr. Hall with these two girls, who were pushing him about, with a view, it is supposed, of robbing him, he having about fifty pounds in his possession. He endeavored to beat the girls off, but was overpowered by them, and they then proceeded to rob him of his money and his watch. The girls, "Let the poor man go," but they took no notice further than to laugh at him, and persisted in their attack upon Mr. Hall until they forced him gradually down to the water's edge, when one of them gave him a violent blow on the head, and he fell into the water. The girls immediately procured assistance, and an oar was held out to the drowning man, but on account of the state he was in he was quite unable to help himself, and he sank, and was sucked in under a vessel lying close by, and was never seen again. The girls were afterwards arrested, and were kept for about two hours afterwards, when the body was drawn from the water, and conveyed to a public-house in the neighborhood, where it was found that if the girls had intended robbing the deceased, they had not done so, as he had no money on him, and he was not wearing any gold, silver, or jewels, nineteen shillings, *5s. 6d.* in silver, and some copper. As soon as the girls had pushed the deceased into the water, they ran off, and from a description given of them by Sargent, Isabella Campbell, of the same name, and Charles Nicholson, of Middlebury, New York, were shortly afterwards apprehended not far from the scene of the catastrophe; they having just emerged from a dray-shop. On Thursday the prisoners were brought up for examination before the magistrate at the Guildhall, when the above facts were given in evidence, and the

The firemen of the London Brigade and West of England Office were actively engaged from five o'clock p.m. of Saturday last until past five o'clock Sunday morning, there having been during that period no fewer than seven fires, at which they had to give their assistance. Independently of the large number of conflagrations, the distance between some of them was nearly twenty miles.

One fire took place in the London Club-house, Jermyn-street, St. James's. It was caused from the heat of the fire in the grate, which ignited the girders and floorings in the first floor, threatening at one time to consume the whole building. Had it not been for the opportune discovery, there is not the least doubt but that the whole of the splendid pile of premises would have been levelled with the ground. It was not ascertained whether the premises were insured.

Another fire, and which was nearly attended with fatal consequences to several persons, broke out in the premises in the occupation of Mr. A. Wright, No. 34, Seymour-street, Easton-square. The inmates, who were in their beds, awoke at the time of discovery, were afterwards difficultly aroused, but owing to the fire rising so fiercely up the staircase, and the smoke being of such a dense and suffocating character, had great difficulty in effecting a safe retreat. The flames were not subdued until they had destroyed the stores on the basement, and had partially consumed the staircase leading to the warehouse. Insured in the Cornish Fire-office.

The third fire, attended with great destruction of valuable property, took place in the extensive range of premises in the occupancy of Messrs. Berger and Sons, known as the Homerton Colour Works, situated in Water-lane, Homerton. The flames originated in a building of considerable extent, used as the Russian blue store, in which many hundred pounds worth of that dye was undergoing treatment of drying. The discovery having been made by the proprietors, the alarm was lost in sending a mounted police-officer to London for the assistance of the Fire Brigade; and an abundant supply of water having been obtained, the firemen went to work, but in spite of their exertions the work of devastation continued, and eventually the flames shot through the roof of the building, to consume the adjacent premises belonging to the same firm. The fire, however, was fortunately stopped to cut off the spreading of the flames just as they had seized upon the evaporating houses. But the fire was not conquered till the building in which the misfortune commenced, which was about 60 feet wide and nearly 40 feet deep, was burnt out and destroyed, and the valuable contents consumed. The total loss is not insured.

A fire also happened on the premises known as the Twickenham Paper-mills, the property of Messrs. Healey and Co., situate on Twickenham-common, about two miles from the Richmond railway-terminus. The firemen, upon arriving at the place, found that the workmen had succeeded in confining the flames to the building in which the misfortune originated; but not until it was burnt down and its valuable contents consumed. Fortunately the mill received no damage whatever. The firm, it was understood, was not insured. This fire was likewise caused from the overheating of a stove.

Another conflagration happened on the premises of Mr. Easthouse, No. 4, Ann-street, East India-road, Poplar. It was caused by a spark flying from the grate, and setting a horse of clothes in flames, from whence they travelled round the room. A great deal of wearing

**EXTENSIVE LANDSLIP.**—An extensive landslip, carrying away a whole field, has just occurred on the Wilts, Somerset, and Weymouth line, now constructing near Devizes, together with an occupation bridge, owing to the immense superincumbent weight of an embankment; which has, it is stated, at great expense been made and re-made.

**AN ANTELOPIDIAN RELIC.**—A discovery of great interest has lately been made at the gates of Constantia (Algeria), while making a cutting for the improvement of the approaches to that city, where a large part of the skeleton of some gigantic animal was found. The thigh and leg bones, the vertebrae, the ribs, and the pelvis were found, and several of the ribs were in a state of preservation. The head measured more than eighty-five centimetres from the teeth to the nape, and forty-eight across the bone of the forehead. The front part of the upper jaw had long teeth, and also tusks, similar to those of a wild boar. The legs of the animal are about the size of those of a horse, and, from the bend of the ribs, it is probable that its sinews were as strong as those of a lion. The ordinary ox's head is somewhat similar to that of the hippopotamus, and its mouth must have been of extraordinary power. No name can be assigned to this animal, but it is considered probable that it may belong to the numerous family of antelopian pachyderms. The ground wherein it was found is composed of a soft, porous rock of the kind which is expected to be found in the environment will open up some further excavations to be made on the same spot, which may lead to other discoveries interesting to science.

[illegible]

ALWAYS IN THE WRONG.

BEING THE ADVENTURES OF SMITH SMITH.

## CHAPTER II.

WITH a confused recollection of the scene of the previous evening, I arose next morning and descended to the coffee-room. The very unusual manner of my host convinced me that my adventure had already reached his ears; nor was I mistaken. He looked at me with those wicked, twinkling eyes, and looking ten thousand daggers at me. The great virtue of a female is candour—no openness which reveals every thing. Ill-natured people say it arises from an impossibility to hold their tongues. I may, my landlady had scarcely put my frugal meal on the table when she burst forth, "So, you are a pretty fellow! You have been playing nice tricks, I hear." I pleaded utter ignorance. "You say you were not in the room last night," she said, "but I mean to say you wasn't caught walking with a fire-for-shame hussy by the Port-Admiral?"—that you went with her afterwards to the play in full uniform?—that you got in front of the gallery on purpose? No, no," I don't deny it," she said, "I know you did. You were a very good fellow, and a very actor woman. You just hold your tongue, because you see all your lies don't signify one farthing. Then didn't you begin at his lordship the Admiral, and go for to make love to his daughters? You don't contradict me, do you? I ain't drunk; I know you did. Now what was the result? You'll find out soon enough. Didn't you turn round, and, after knocking one or two poor women down, didn't you begin a terrible row? After clearing the gallery, in order to get at the Admiral, didn't you throw a chair at him? Didn't you knock him down? Didn't you get a wife's eye right in the eye, and then sneak in here like a drunken young scamp, as you are? But that won't do. If I hadn't promised the Flag-Captain to detain you till he came, I'd just bundle you out neck and crop, you know. Now, what are you going to do? You've got to answer her, she shouted out of the room.

and there was a comfortable situation for a young gentleman beginning life. How should I ever dare to face my mother again? What was to become of me? The Flag-Captain had evidently been sent to give me my dismissal from the service, almost ere I had entered it; or had come to order me on board to receive the gentle discipline the Admiral had kindly promised me. The next person I should probably have to face would be the manager, who would naturally demand reparation for the damage I had done; or, what is still worse, I should have to encounter the man whose umbrella I had unconsciously stolen; for in the *malice* I had seized one from the hands of a bystander as a weapon of defence when the sticks were flying about, and, in my hurry to get home, had actually brought it away with me.

In the midst of those (may anything but) deleterious cogitations, I looked up, and, to my horror, saw the young officer I had met the day before with a civilian, talking on the opposite side of the street. Their conversation evidently related to me, for the former occasionally pointed his finger at me, as if he were saying, "That fellow has been here." The object of his conversation was a mere boy. In a few minutes more they suddenly turned round, and crossed the street in a direct line to the door of the inn. No time was to be lost; I must either make up my mind to go, or wait till they were gone. I waited some five minutes, but the officer never returned. So, starting up, I ran to the other side of the road, and, without any fixed plan, jumped out of the back-window, which opened on a small garden. Across this I bounded, entered a cottage, and hid myself behind the chimney-piece. A woman, who lived there with her inhabitants, made instantly for the front-door, which opened into a large hall, and, after looking about her, she came towards me. I lay down close beneath it, and, imagining I heard the sounds of pursuit close behind me. Then I threw up a wide stair, across a market-place, round a square, and so forth, until I reached a narrow lane, where I perceived a very small road which runs immediately behind a building, then used as a hospital for sick prisoners of war. Skirted by this edifice on one side, and the other formed a sort of quay, against which the waves now heat themselves, I slipped along, and, without being observed, escaped from the tropic to notice it; nor did I remark, till I was fairly half way on, that a large crowd blocked up the passage, and thus stopped my further flight. My pursuers were doubtless close at my heels: in a word, I was in a most awkward predicament, and I began to feel that it was to become of you? Disgraced, dogged, imprisoned, sent back to your step-father, what fate can be so bad as this! None! Death were better, far better! It is but a plunge, and all is over!—and, with this

Reader, did you ever feel the agonies of drowning? If you did, I am sure you can conceive the horrible sensation that came over me when I found my head under water. Every resolve vanished. A strong desire to preserve my life instantly laid hold of me. Drowning very justly, at that moment, appeared to me considerably worse than any whipping or confinement the Admiral could inflict, and I boldly struck out. Fortunately, I was a first-rate swimmer; so, after shaking my dripping locks, and spitting forth the salt water which filled my mouth, I made directly for the quay.

to the quail, and half the crowd had rushed to the spot where I had jumped in, not apparently, however, with any intention of drawing me out; for several of them began shouting, "Bravo! bravo! that's right! Go it, my gallant boy!" and similar exclamations, which puzzled me a little. "There, to the right!" cried one who seemed to be authority. I turned to the right to see what they meant; no sooner did I do so than I felt a hand laid on my shoulder, and I turned round to see, as before, you have him!" Go on; well done, my brave lad!" And so I went, though really I could not guess what they meant. Presently I came bump against something. I held out my hand, and grasped a human head; seizing it by the hair, I dragged it towards me, and turned towards shore, perfectly satisfied in finding a fellow-creature's life. "Well done, my brave lad," said a dead body. Content with this, I turned back, and, in a few yards, though somewhat exhausted, amid the acclamations of the spectators, I

Fortunately, at this instant some person suggested that I might be tired—that the exertion might, perhaps, be too much for me; and a rope was accordingly thrown out, with a slip-knot, which, after an ineffectual attempt or two, I at length grasped; and trusting to my own swimming, anxious to get rid of my heavy burden, I passed the noose round the body I held, which they instantly dragged on shore. I was now almost sinking with fatigue, and I verily do believe a few moments more would have sealed my fate; but, seeing my exhaustion, the same considerate person who had done so before again threw the rope to me, and drew me to the

fight of steps, where a hundred hands waited to lift me out of the water. Fagged, and drenched to the skin, I was easily persuaded to enter the hospital. Here I was supplied, amidst a shower of praise, with warm blankets, till my own clothes were brought from the inn. I now, for the first time, perceived the advantages of my situation; and, in my sorrow, let out the fact of my error which I had just supposed to be the only one I possessed, and that I had not then the means of purchasing another. At this intimation, the stout gentleman of whom I spoke before asked me my name and station. At such a moment my heart was open, and I confided in him as one of my misfortunates. Of course, the most reasonable of pitying men, I saw him smile, and, after assuring me he hoped all would end rightily, gave me his name. It was now, however, too late to withdraw my confidence, and I could only blame my own loquacity. One thing I determined on—namely, not to return to the inn, but to remain house to sit as was as long as possible; and, for this purpose, I offered myself to a woman of the same house whose life I had saved, and who, by her looks and seeming, appeared to be sorry for the crime I had attempted to commit, and grateful to me for having saved his soul from an awful responsibility.

After a time, when we were quite alone, he turned to me. "Young gentleman, you have preserved my life, and perhaps more. I am truly deeply thankful. If any excuse could be offered for having thus impiously attempted to destroy myself, the events of my life may probably furnish one; and as you are young, they may some day afford you a lesson never to indulge in suspicion; for it is not, as the people here believe, the mere fact of my being a prisoner that urged me to this rash

and wicked attempt, but the ever-haunting recollections of my early life. I will, therefore, relate to you the circumstances which, preying on my enfeebled mind, led me to the mad act you have just witnessed ; but in order to avoid dwelling on the agitating sensations, the passions that then racked me, I will tell my story as briefly as possible."

After a short pause he thus began.

After a short sojourn in Corsica by birth, my father, a rather wealthy farmer, resided near Bastia. A man more respected lived not in our island; and, as his only son, I (perhaps without fully meriting it) generally shared the education bestowed on him. To relate his history I need not detain you. I was gradually weaned from the idea of becoming a soldier, and uninteresting. Suffice it to say that I arrived at the age of nineteen without meeting with a single adventure worth recounting. My early days had flown by in one stream of unrequited happiness. I need not, however, repeat to you the details of my life. I was, however, not considered time I should now choose a wife; and my father spoke to me seriously on the subject, little aware that for three years past my heart had been fondly devoted to the sister of my oldest and best friend, and that I had been secretly betrothed to her. I had, however, only half appeared to oppose our union, and I was now free. His father had joined the unfortunate Paolo's mad attempt at rendering Corsica an independent sovereignty, and been ruined. My betrothed—my more than wife—was consequently penniless; and as my father, like every man of his rank, was avaricious, he could not consent to my marrying her. We should meet with some difficulties ere we obtained his consent. Youth, however, is sanguine; and we went on indulging in our dream of bliss. How these sweet anticipations would have ended it is impossible to say, had not the Emperor, in the year 1802, sent his army into action. We were consequently free to espouse Margherita, who now required a protector more than ever, her brother having been drawn as a soldier by the savage law of her country, just introduced into our hitherto peaceful island by the French. Dragged at an instant's notice from his home, he had been hurried to the front to join a new levy of troops required by the bloodthirsty Emperor.

"Well may I call him bloodthirsty; for to him I owe the death of my parent, who was shot in front of our cottage-door, without trial, without awaiting time for a reprieve, by a band of Napoleon's ferocious soldiery, for having given an asylum, only for a few hours, to a Corsican deserter. Never can I forget that scene. The wretches entered our house abruptly one morning, and desired my father to deliver up the fugitive they supposed to lurk beneath his roof.

"He left some hours ago, and has by this time sailed from the island," replied my father.

"You acknowledge, then, that you have harboured him?"

"I certainly gave him a meal, and allowed him to rest here during a couple of hours."

"You are aware that in so doing you have incurred the penalty of death? To screen a deserter—"

"'Stay!' cried my parent. 'I deny that I knew him to be such.'"  
 "That is not to the purpose. You must die!"  
 "My father started up. I would have interposed, but in an instant we were both seized; and, as I still struggled in the grasp of my captors, I saw my father placed on his knees, and without shrift, without time being allowed him to utter a single prayer, shot before my eyes. I saw him fall, his white hair dabbled with blood, his eyes cast up towards heaven. I saw his last struggle, and heard his last gasp. I turned towards his murderers, who stood actually jesting at their late act of butchery; and as they threw me from them, bound hand and foot, I saw a deep cut in the forehead of one of them, and the blood of France, when, in the name of vengeance against the savage children of France, when, in the name of religion, I lost for some time all consciousness of my own terrible situation."

"When I recovered, I found the brutal soldiery had stripped the house of everything valuable. The body of my parent lay exposed before our door. I dug a grave—I uttered no threat—I shed no tear. Thoughts of vengeance had dried up my heart; and I almost smiled as, in imagination, I retaliated the tortures they had inflicted on me. People came to see and pity me. They fancied me unfeeling, but they could not fathom

"But I will not continue to harrow up your feelings with a description of my own. I will pass over the many dreadful acts I committed, while under the shadow of the spirit of vengeance. Frenchmen were found murdered in the woods; sentinels were stabbed on their posts; officers were enticed out and destroyed. I am now dying. I may safely confess it. It was I who slaughtered them; my stiletto drank their blood; and as each fresh victim fell, I bent wanted for another.

"My revenge unsatiated, I was yet compelled to forego it for a time. Extra guards were stationed, measures of precaution taken, and large rewards offered for the apprehension of 'the Scourge of Corsica' (for so they dared to call me). Further retaliation for the present I found to be impossible.

"Turning my thoughts to happier subjects, I now married Margaretta ; and certainly, if ever a couple were happy, we were for about twelve months. We loved each other, and I sought for no happiness beyond our threshold.

at her threshold.

"I had occasion to go into Bessie, where I found a letter addressed to my wife lying at the post-office. I took it home. She read it, and turned deadly pale, as she hastily locked it up. I jokingly asked her who it came from? She seemed much confused, and refused to reply. I then opened it, and netted, and lo! it was from the girl of my eyes! From me! Shocked at this, I discovered occasional delinquencies in my ladder. I stored our servant-maid of purloining the missings provisions, who, after making me vow never to divulge it, stated to me that my wife daily left the house during my absence, carrying various articles of dress for a maid, and that she was not to be trusted. I solemnly swore to the truth of it that I began to believe her, and was about to seek my wife, (would to Heaven I had done so!) and insist on an explanation. From this I was dissuaded by the girl, who agreed to become a spy, and to tell me all that she saw. She did so, and one day when she brought me a piece of paper which Marguerita had dropped. On it was written in a man's hand, 'Meet me this evening at seven, should your husband go out.'"

"The scrap bore the date of the previous day,

When I had gone into the town to see a friend, my whole blood seemed to be turned to gall, and I came home, and my anger increased. I went to the middle of the sea-brook, and, quietly descending, laid myself out for the purpose of walking towards the sea-coast. Just as I was leaving our grounds, I saw a person pass quickly amongst some trees in a shrubbery which skirted my last field. The intruder wore a French cocked hat, and flung a stone at me. He had evidently been near the house, and I thought I might have been the cause of his anger. In my peace, and hastily retraced my steps. As I never can I forget my feelings as I approached my home, and saw a Note lying on the sill of my cottage-window. I took it in, it struck a light, and read it. It merely contained the following words, "I am at eight o'clock this evening." I carefully unfolded it, and placed it again in my pocket. I went into my room, and, noiselessly stealing up stairs, I lay down by the side of her whom I now hated as an ungovernable, treacherous wife should be hated. My love, my affection, my agonies, my agonies, I can never depict.

At length, at length, my legs began to tremble, and at times I nearly perished of my purpose. At length seven o'clock came, and, in taking my rifle, I went out, saying, I was about to stroll towards the sea-coast, and endeavor to shoot some wild fowl. My wife embraced me

"I knew it was for the last time, and yet I sallied forth.  
 "At a quarter before eight I stole a rock, and concealed myself near the cross alluded to in the note. It was already deep twilight, and I found it easy to hide myself amongst the cliffs. For a moment I breathed freely. No one was there, and I began to think I was a mistake, when I perceived a female approach. It was my wife. I once raised the agony of that moment to a name beyond endurance. I said to myself, 'God! I am at another woman's elbow, about to reveal my secret, to discover myself, and reproach the faithless woman; but determined to reserve my vengeance for her guilty paramour, I still remained premeditated.' In less than five minutes another form appeared. It was a man, a Frenchman. He wore the uniform of the hated nation. Margareta rushed towards him, and in the next moment she was clasped in his arms. I could bear no more. I raised

my rifle, and laid it close at the feet of his own sister." It was Luigi, the hapless Luigi, who, having deserted, had sought his native island; but fearing to incaluate me, and dreading lest my friendship for him might involve my life, had kept me ignorant of his arrival. What shall I say now? My wife and I were both broken hearted. I joined the army, and after thirty years, vainly endeavored to meet my death on the battle-field; wherever war or civil strife displayed her banner, there have I vainly sought my end. Last night I dreamt that a voluntary sacrifice of my own life was the only expiation I could offer in atonement for my crime. I thought I saw the angel of death himself shun me in his cruelty; and I seem, alas! like Cain, ordained to wander on earth, a beacon of guilt for all the good to avoid."

As the poor man concluded his narrative, which, being a good French scholar, I had perfectly understood, he bowed down before me, from which position he rose up, and, following his example proved itself, his hands were avoided. To be returned to my own story.

At this moment my terror (for such, indeed, was the Flag-Captain to me) entered; but instead of the awful form, the reprimand I expected, he kindly held out his hand, and in the most engaging manner addressed me.

"I come from the Admiral, my brave boy, to express his admiration of your courageous and noble conduct, which has quite wiped out any little form of reproach that might have been attached to you. Your daring goodness of heart that he would have hoped to have seen you dinner to day to present you to his family, but orders have just been received for the Tartar to put to sea immediately. So off you must go, and I am sure you will find your way to your letter of recommendation to Captain Sowerby, and a trifle (don't you forget to accept it, my lad) as a small token of his appreciation of your brave conduct, which is already the talk of Plymouth. Come, come, don't attempt to make light of my good wishes and look like a hero. One so young, so brave, and so full of spirit, should not be so easily overcome. Good night, my boy, and I ever we meet again, count on my friendship. But come along, now; the boat waits to carry you off," and down he hurried me again to the shore, where I embarked, and in a moment after put off for his

I had been cursing the fortune-teller all night for the vagaries of fate she had promised me. Did I do so now? No! As I played with the watch, and jingled the twenty guineas I had just received, I gratefully, in my mind, blessed the red-mantled sorceress, more especially for the last line of her strange prediction.

(To be continued.)

## Reviews of New Books

*Struggles for Life; or the Autobiography of a Dissenting Minister.*  
London: Cash and Co.

A BIOGRAPHY and a distillate of interest in itself, and reflecting a very vague, faint light upon human life and human affairs in general, the "Struggles for Life" furnishes little to charm and nothing to instruct the painstaking reader. From the moment when we are called upon to read the first chapter, we are aware that we are about to be subjected to an unusually large (that a cap as large as one belonging to his mother-in-law (*Angie*, his mother's cap) is required to cover it)—a head belonging to a child who had been two years and a half in the world, yet who was not yet a year old. The child is called "Angie" (Angie, the name of the woman when faced to gaze in wonder on the child, is called "Angie" entirely cease. Still fancy gaps, indeed, to the end of the history, or rather volume; not with wonder, however, but blank vacuity. Yet were this the only fault of the volume, we should not feel so dissatisfied. The volume is a volume of the history of the child, and the harm in the production of nothing. But running deep and wide through the book there is a certain dissonance far too characteristic of modern religious biographies, that which nothing can be better calculated to destroy. It is the feeling of the volume, that it appears to be a narration of religious experience; it is most flagrant when the narrators declare, as they frequently do, on the experience of "children" and it is a specimen from the "Struggles for Life." "I shall never forget, though it is impossible to describe, the first time I ever felt the force of the seven or eight, by the ninth, eleventh, and sixteenth chapters of the evangelical prophet Isaiah." The sixth and seventh verses of the ninth chapter used to throw us into a kind of rapture which no language can describe. The sixth and seventh verses of the ninth chapter used to throw us into a kind of rapture which no language can describe. The sixth and seventh verses of the ninth chapter used to throw us into a kind of rapture which no language can describe.

The reverend author does not scruple to reprint the whole of the passages indicated—passages which are more sacred than any others in the Old Testament, both from their import and the fulness of their inspiration—in particularising his inspirations at seven years old. We will not say that the reverend author is not a very good man, but we think that no one who knows those passages will perceive that, while they are precisely such as a man desirous of the good opinion of the religious world might wish to be inspired with, they are also precisely such as a child would pass over without any emotion. The reverend author, we can see, has not been able to see that at this time understanding is not as yet so far advanced as to read, not in proportion as it is subtle, however beautiful, but in proportion as what they read can be *pictured*, can be made pictures in their minds. Had the passages which so exalted the author of the "Strangely" been that of the "Seven Years," the reverend author, or any other, could have made descriptions which blaze upon the pages of every prophet Isaiah, we could well have understood his feelings; but that a child of seven or eight should pass these by, to be inspired beyond the description of language with such a picture which none but a tutored mind could have so fully comprehended, is a thing which we can only deem a miracle, even if we do not deem it a miracle, as it is a thing so unaccountable as to seem almost beyond all probability. We dwell upon this instance of our author's experience, however, not as a single instance of the kind, but as an example. The dialogues, wherever they occur, are peculiarly unnatural, and all the more so, because they are so few. Finally, by no means and on no account do we recommend the publication of this book, its service to literature is *nil*; its service to religion less.

*Curiosities of London Life.* By CHARLES MANBY SMITH, Author of

the "Working Man's Way in the World." London: Cash and Co.

ALTHOUGH this volume has been published but a few weeks, it is already stamped and sealed with the approbation of a discerning British public; and that is exactly what it deserves. It is a well-filled gallery of pictures, painted with Dutch accuracy, and generally more than Dutch truthfulness. The scenes and strays of society, the remnants of humanity and its small pieces over, are represented with extreme fidelity, and not without appreciation of the fun and pathos which usually mingle in the existence of such poor children of the world and fortune. The sketches, however, are confined to the "curiosities" of life, unless, like he said, as well may be said, the commonplaces of life are curious enough to enter a microscope. Many genial pages are here written on common and everyday affairs; and it is upon these, we may remark, that the greatest talent is needed, as upon these the greatest talent has ever been employed. Fifty years hence Mr. Smith's volume will add to the justly famous "Sketches of the Traits of Society" which will add to the history in it; the history, however, need a real value. It is curious to see, in the history of the past, the traits of society of the most striking points of a past-away state of society. We wish this book success.

**FLOGGING IN THE NAVY PRODUCING APOPLEXY AND EPILEPSY.**—In the *Medical Times and Gazette* of the 17th inst. are reports, by Dr. Davidson, of the cases of two men who were flogged on board one of our Majesty's ships, one of whom was removed from the gratings in a fit of epilepsy, and the other had an apoplectic attack. One was rendered permanently unseizable. Surely these facts alone are sufficient to put an end to a practice which is a disgrace to our country and our age!





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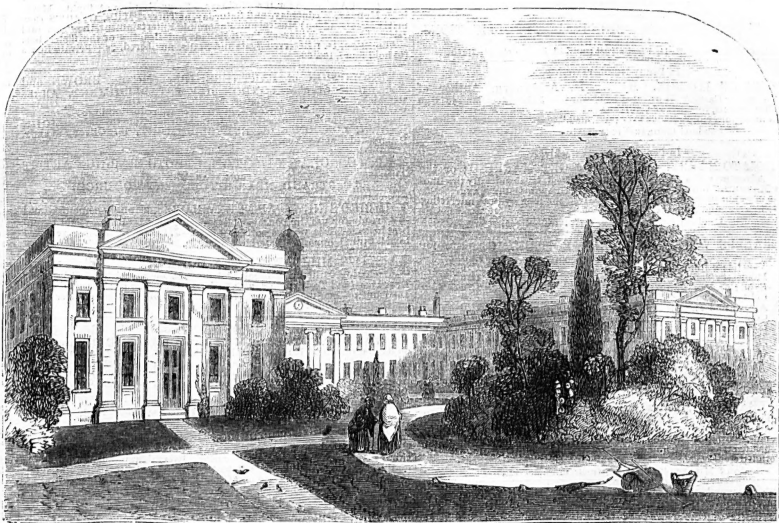
## THE LICENSED VICTUALLERS' ASYLUM.

THE British nation may claim its Charities as characteristic; for distinguished as England is from other lands, whether in good points or in bad, there is none which sooner seizes an intelligent mind than the number, extent, and wealth of institutions devoted to charitable purposes, and sustained by the mere accidental income of "voluntary contributions." We are supposed to be a sage mercantile people—an aggregate of shopkeepers, alive in every member to the value of pence, and not noted for rash speculation or dependence on anything not in the bond. Yet new institutions, for the good of some forgotten class of sufferers, are constantly launched on a scale large and liberal as the humanity which prompts to it, and all upon the mere faith that the British Lion has his annual one-pound-one always ready for a good cause. Bankers and treasurers there are who will advance money on that faith; Committees undertake to provide help for hundreds, in food, medicine, clothing, or employment, and sometimes more than all these together, on that faith; and the result leaves us only one regret, that while the useful and good cause seldom or never fails for want of help, some that may scarcely claim to be either also find plentiful grist to their mills.

To the latter class the Licensed Victuallers' Asylum, for one out of many, certainly does not belong. Its object, to provide the aged and infirm members of the trade with humble yet respectable retirement, thus sparing them the degradation of spending their last days in a parish workhouse, is poorly described as useful and good; and we are glad to know that the Asylum has won such favour from the public as to have become one of the greatest and best-supported charities in England. It is sincerely to be hoped that that support will never be less.

It is many years ago since the attempt was first made to establish an institution answering to the present Asylum; but circumstances frustrated it. In the latter part of 1830, a new subscription for the purpose was set on foot; and so readily was the design then entered into by the general body of "licensed victuallers" that a society was soon formed, and the Licensed Victuallers' Asylum founded. A sufficient quantity of freehold land, situate on the Old Kent Road was purchased, and thereupon was erected a building consisting of 101 distinct habitations, each containing three rooms, besides requisite conveniences. The plan was so designed as to form three sides of a quadrangle, of which the main building was to furnish forty-three dwellings, and the wings twenty-nine each. The first stone of the Asylum was laid by the Duke of Sussex, in May, 1832. At that time, however, the directors were only enabled to contract for the erection of the centre portion; and it was not till the close of the year 1833 that the original design was completed by the erection of the north wing. The south wing was built in 1831.

Since then, however, two lodges have been erected at the gates of the



EXTERIOR OF THE LICENSED VICTUALLERS' ASYLUM, OLD KENT ROAD.

months. The Winter's Flat field has shared in the revival, and is yielding well.

"The courses of the several veins remarkable for richness are now well ascertained; and as they nearly all lead into the extensive flats stretching eight miles in length from Winter's Flat to Eureka, the eyes of the experienced diggers are directed to this quarter, and numerous claims have been marked out, although there is no chance of sinking holes for several weeks, or until dry weather sets in. Should the expectations respecting these flats be realised, there will be room here for all the diggers in Victoria.

"The best proof of the general prosperity of the Ballarat diggings is to be found in the fact that the lowest rate of wages on the ground is £2 per day, and many are engaged in sinking at £3 per day. The population is rapidly augmenting, not in consequence of the late discoveries, but because of the steady prosperity which has been known to prevail for several weeks past. The latest discoveries have not yet had time to produce this effect."

Later accounts slightly abated the sensation caused by the discovery of the "basin." It is reached only after digging a shaft or hole 150 feet in depth, and appears to be limited to a comparatively small area, since parties working close to the lucky finders of the deposit have been disappointed. This is constantly the case; and, though there is no doubt the real wealth of the gold districts is undiminished, it is distributed so capriciously that the pursuit is a mere lottery. The summer promises to be a very busy one; a large increase in the gold returns during the next four months may be expected.

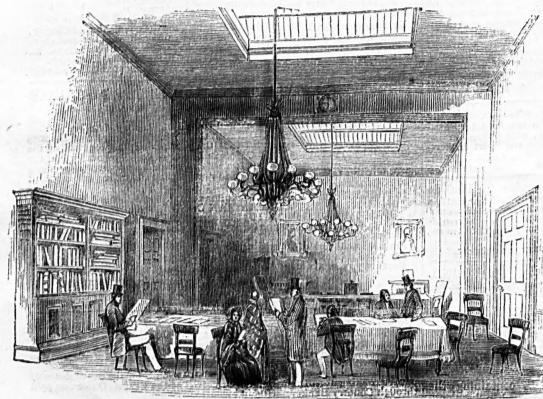
The price of gold, however, has slightly fallen in Melbourne, in consequence of the uncertainty felt as to the decline in the gold returns during the next four months may be expected. It has caused a similar but slighter decline in Sydney. The following is from the last Sydney Gold Circular:—

"The news from Victoria still speak highly of the large yields at Ballarat. The uncertain state of the Government as regards the licence-

have come on a table of gold about 100 feet from the surface, apparently inexhaustible. All I can tell you respecting it is that the people's minds are partly turned from the immense discovery. Every tuff of earth they raise from these holes contains pounds' weight of gold. The more they dig the more inexhaustible it appears. At Geelong a tumult has broken out among the diggers. The Government has sent up all the military to quell the disturbances, and the marines of her Majesty's ship *Electra* are mounting guard at the Treasury, and the sailors of the above steamer of war mount sentry at the banks. The military from Van Diemen's Land are about to be despatched to Melbourne to aid the military already there. Goodness only knows how all this will end!—Hobart Town, Sept. 5. By the steamer from Geelong this day, I find that a gold quarry has been discovered near Geelong, 100 to 130 feet from the surface of the earth, putting all other diggings in the shade; 18,000 ounces have been taken out in three days by a few persons, and one person has got a lump weighing 190 pounds in one solid piece. This is no exaggeration, and the greatest excitement prevails."

## ROMANTIC MARRIAGE.

On the last trip of the steamer *Sonora*, one of those little episodes of life occurred which are beyond those ordinary transactions that make up the sum total of human existence. At an early hour, as we are informed, this fleet and noble steamer might have been seen near the town of Greenville. The anxious looks exchanged between many of her passengers portended that there was something extraordinary about to occur. Was it a case of cholera? or had some one's pocket been picked? were the exclamations of those who saw, but did not comprehend the mystery. At length the matter was explained by the announcement that if there was a judge, justice, or parson on board, his services were required. Everyone breathed easier, for now it was a clear case of matrimony, and that, too, "on the wing." This important functionary was soon found in the person of Judge Barnett, who, being on his way to Greenville, declared his readiness to solemnise the banns on the arrival of the steamer at that place. Everybody was happy, for a wedding is always a joyful event, whatever the consequences may be that result from it. In a few minutes the boat arrived, and, after she was fairly landed, the famous "shepherd boy," Thomas G. Noel, of Jefferson, led forth from the ladies' cabin the beautiful and accomplished Miss Lydia Stinson, of Evansville, attended by the charming Miss V. of New Orleans, and a gentleman from France, when his Honour, in the presence of a hundred passengers, averted into speechless silence by his impressive manner, proceeded in the "beautiful formula" of judicial rite to make them one; and sealing their vows at his command, "Salute the bride!" uttered with distinct and measured tones, the breathless stillness was broken by the simultaneous echoes from a hundred tongues, "Long live in blissful happiness the wedded pair!" The steamer immediately unloosed her moor-



THE LIBRARY.

Asylum, affording two additional habitations, and an additional building called the "Ladies' Wing," which contains twenty-six homes. The Asylum, therefore, now consists of 126 separate dwellings. A chapel has also been built in the grounds, where services are performed daily. We have given a view of the interior of this chapel, as also of the library.

There are at the present time 142 inmates of the Asylum; and since its institution £30,000 has been expended upon their reception and comfort. For the last few years the Board of Management have been in the habit of granting to the inmates weekly allowances in money to provide the necessities of life. Such allowances have been increased, from time to time, as means for so doing were supplied to them. At this time the Board are in the habit of making up the incomes of all couples in the Asylum to 7s. per week, and those of single persons, widows or widowers, to 5s. Such allowances, at this time, amount to £19 per week, or £988 per annum. But the inmates are not infrequently distressed from the want of larger means to provide for their necessities; and the Board have recently determined to endeavour to provide means to increase the allowances to couples to 10s. per week, and those of single persons, widows or widowers, to 8s. per week; and to create an investment in the funds, by the interest of which those allowances may be defrayed, and rendered free from all casualties. A subscription has been set on foot for this purpose, and we have no doubt it will be generously responded to.

## NEWS FROM THE GOLD FIELDS.

THERE have been some brilliant accounts from the Ballarat gold fields in the *Geelong Advertiser*.

"Our intelligence from the scene of the last great discovery is up to Wednesday morning. We are now enabled to give more precise information respecting the alleged 'table of gold' of which information was expressed to his Excellency in Melbourne. The stratum of gold is, in reality, a 'basin,' not a table. Heretofore the gold has been traced in veins and 'pockets.' Now it is found in an immense irregular patch, or monster pocket, and already about a dozen holes have been sunk into it, every one of which has hit. So uniform is this rich stratum that its value, wherever tested, has been found to range from £1200 to £3000 per superficial foot. When the stratum was first reached, the little mounds of earth containing the gold had the appearance of a solid rock of the metal; but, when handled, it broke into a mass of dust and nuggets. The twelve holes are known by the name of the 'jewellers' shops."

"The accounts from the other parts of Ballarat are, though not quite so wonderful, quite as gratifying. At the gravel-pits, the waste-stuff is of the unhealed thickness of thirteen feet, and it is an advantageous peculiarity of that field that the vein runs in a straight line. There is a new surfacing field at the back of the Canadian Gully; and at the Lagoon the surfacing still holds out, although it has been worked for several

months. The Winter's Flat field has shared in the revival, and is yielding well.

"The news from Victoria still speak highly of the large yields at Ballarat. The uncertain state of the Government as regards the licence-

possession of an export duty. It has caused a similar but slighter decline in Sydney. The following is from the last Sydney Gold Circular:—

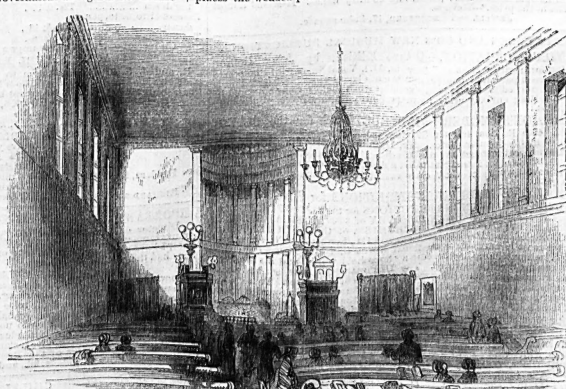
"The news from Victoria still speak highly of the large yields at Ballarat. The uncertain state of the Government as regards the licence-

The decline is about 2s. per ounce.

The following are the yields of the various parties at the Ballarat diggings, as reported by the Ballarat Gold Fields Association, Sept. 5, 1853:

The Turon 425 ounces 5 dwts. 6 grains; from Ballarat, 241 ounces 1 dwt. 8 grains; from Tambora, 389 ounces 1 dwt.; from Merco, 300 ounces 15 dwts. 13 grains; from Mudges, 33 ounces 17 dwts.; from Braidwood, 357 ounces 10 dwts. 12 grains; the Mines, 216 ounces. Total, 1995 ounces 11 dwts. A great many samples of gold have been offered this week from new localities, but where the parties would not state. With a continuation of the weather, the energies of the Turon miners are again called into play; and undaunted by the disappointment and frequent floods, directly a change shows itself they fall to with a determination that deserves success. This last week there has been a rush towards the Eagle, Bark, and Keenan's, and some rather numerous parties are tunnelling in the face of almost perpendicular ranges near the Big Oaky, producing five or six ounces per day."

The following extraordinary intelligence is contained in a letter received by Mr. Joseph Abraham, of Bristol, from a relative in Hobart Town:—Hobart Town, Sept. 5, 1853.—Knowing how deeply interesting any news respecting Australia may be to you, I write to inform you of a great discovery that has again been made on the Geelong side, about fifty miles from the town. They have been digging very deep, and



THE CHAPEL.

ings, and Captain La Farge, with becoming liberality, had a feast prepared, as was a feast, while a "few" bottles of champagne suffered, and went happy as a marriage-bell. The two, who first met on deck as strangers, led the same at the Crescent. City linked in golden chains, to pursue one life and one pathway.

LONDON: Printed by JAMES WADE, of No. 30, Princes-street, in the Parish of Lambeth, in the County of Surrey, at the Printing-office of Messrs. SALISBURY, BRETTON, and Co., Boulevard-street; and Published by JOHN DRYDEN, of No. 4, Market-place, Waltham, in the Parish of St. Mary's, Newington, in the County of Surrey, at 119, Fleet-street, in the Parish of St. Bride's, in the City of London.—Dec. 24, 1853.